

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

9 JANUARY 1985

Lebanon

Israeli Air Force planes successfully raided a terrorist base in the Al-Biq'a area and all returned safely. Jerusalem radio announced on 9 January. However, the planes were "intercepted by intensive ground fire," according to the Voice of Lebanon radio.

Earlier, implementation of the security plan for the coastal road and al-Kharrub area got under way with the deployment of two Internal Security Force units in Iqlim al-Kharrub while another unit began to bulldoze the earth barrier on the highway in Al-Damur, Beirut radio reported. The Progressive Socialist Party no longer has roadblocks on the coastal road, which must be open for the national resistance forces because Israel intends to remain in the south, PSP leader Walid Junblatt declared in remarks cited by Voice of the Mountain radio. However, according to Radio Free Lebanon, Junblatt maintained that while "little concessions" would be made on the coastal road plan, the PSP would never give up Al-Damur and Al-Na'imah. Moreover, he urged that the PSP and the Amal movement unite in the cause of overthrowing the Lebanese regime.

As for IDF withdrawal negotiations, President Amin Al-Jumayyil discussed ways to overcome difficulties in the suspended Al-Na'urah talks in a telephone conversation with the UN secretary general, Beirut radio reported, adding that the UN leader promised to send his political affairs assistant to Lebanon to work on the issue. Earlier, Jerusalem radio predicted that expected stepped-up UN contacts have a good chance of success, and that they will result in a distinction being made between the issues of UNIFIL and IDF deployment. Since the Israeli defense establishment does not consider the talks at an end, another round may start next week, according to Jerusalem television. Israel's Prime Minister's Office and defense quarters understand the need to change the IDF deployment and now must convince the Likud ministers of this, the television asserted, noting that Radio Free Lebanon announced that Lebanon has proposed that the talks be renewed.

Israeli Airlift of Ethiopian Jews

No economic problem or domestic, geographical, or political obstacles can stop or postpone the rescue of Ethiopian Jews,

President Shim'on Peres asserted to the Knesset in a statement broadcast on Jerusalem radio.

Jordan

USSR Arms Deal — On the basis of "current realities," arms relations with the Soviet Union will continue to develop because Moscow does not impose political conditions before making a weapons deal, Amman's *AL-RAYY* stated. The United States' recent warning of the consequences of the Jordanian-Soviet air defense system agreement emanated from an "arrogant and stupid mentality," the paper charged, going on to express respect for the "clean Soviet hand which is extended in friendship."

Terrorism, Security — As for last week's assassination of PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi in Amman, sources cited by Dubayy's *AL-BAYAN* disclosed that the culprits were arrested on 7 January and are under "intense interrogation." Security forces arrested two other men who pursued the deputy PNC chairman after Al-Qawasimi's funeral, the paper added.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

The Iraqi Air Force launched three successful raids against maritime targets near Khark Island on 8 January, according to a military statement broadcast on Voice of the Masses radio. Citing an AP report, Tehran radio noted that Iraq "claimed to have attacked one oil tanker" in the Gulf.

Pakistan, Afghanistan

Pakistan rejected the "totally false and baseless" DRA charge that Pakistani militiamen entered Paktia Province with an armed group on 28 December, stating that Pakistani Armed Forces have never violated DRA territorial boundaries, Karachi radio reported. Last week, the mujahidin caused heavy damage in an attack on the Interior Ministry building in Kabul, according to Afghan sources cited by IRNA. Moreover, the mujahidin blew up two oil pipelines in Herat Province, the sources claimed, adding that Soviet forces recently shot 20 residents of Herat for supporting the mujahidin.

FBIS**DAILY REPORT
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'Arafat, Qaddumi on PLO-Cyprus Relations

NC070806 Nicosia O ANEXARTITOS in Greek
7 Jan 85 p 1

[Excerpts] "The PLO and Cyprus have been for a long time linked by strong militant bonds. We are proud of the fraternal relations between our two peoples, the Palestinian and Cypriot peoples. We will safeguard and strengthen these relations by every means."

The above was stressed in a statement made to our newspaper by Palestinian leader Yasir 'Arafat.

The Palestinian leader expressed pride because he was honored by the late ethnarch Makarios' friendship. With Makarios' death, Yasir 'Arafat stressed, a great leader of the Third World vanished and the PLO lost a strong supporter.

At the same time, in a statement to O ANEXARTITOS, PLO Political Department Chairman Faruq Qaddumi said that the PLO and the Socialist EDEK Party maintain close contacts in exchanging views on common issues and in coordinating their activities for the promotion of a just solution to the Palestinian and Cyprus issues.

Specifically, Qaddumi said:

"The PLO's position on the Cyprus issue is firm and immutable. We unreservedly support the independence, sovereignty, and nonalignment of the Republic of Cyprus and the unity of the state and its people. We also support the talks being conducted between the United Nations and the two Cypriot sides. At the same time, the PLO reaffirms the need for noninterference by foreigners in the internal affairs of Cyprus so that the talks may be conducted unbiased and free from foreign intervention."

Finally, asked about the PLO's appraisal of the Cyprus position on the Palestinian issue, Qaddumi said:

"We are satisfied with Cyprus' stance on the Palestinian issue. Cyprus firmly supports our struggle and recognizes the PLO as the sole and legal representative of our people. At the same time, it also recognized our legitimate rights including self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state."

'Arafat Receives Support From Gabonese President

JN081913 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has received a special message from Gabonese President Omar Bongo. In his message, the president affirmed his country's support for the PLO and the resolutions of the PNC which met recently in Amman.

The president also expressed his country's disillusionment with and denunciation of the Syrian regime's ridiculous attempts to interfere in PLO internal affairs.

Faruq Qaddumi Returns to Tunis After Jordan Visit

JN081908 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], head of the PLO Political Department, arrived in Tunis last night from Amman following a weeklong visit to Jordan, during which he met with several Jordanian officials.

Brother Abu al-Lutf held a series of meetings with Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri in the presence of the members of the dialogue committee with Jordan, which is composed of Brothers Abu al-Lutf, Hani al-Hasan, 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad, and 'Abd al-Razzaq al-Yahya. The meetings stressed the importance of joint Palestinian-Jordanian moves on the Arab and international levels to win the support of world public opinion for an international conference for Middle East peace in which the PLO will be represented by an independent delegation.

PLO Official Denounces Ethiopian Regime

JN081246 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Amman, 8 Jan (INA) — PLO Executive Committee member 'Abd al-Rahim Ahmad has stated that the present operations transporting Jews from Ethiopia to the Zionist entity are a blow to the Palestinian national struggle and to the Arab nation.

In a statement to the INA correspondent in Amman today, Ahmad said that these operations serve the imperialist and Zionist schemes that are hostile to the Arab nation which is struggling against the racist presence on Palestinian soil. He pointed out that this new number of Ethiopian Jews will incite the Zionist entity to confiscate more Arab lands and expel more Arab citizens.

He said that the current regime in Ethiopia, which has used the current starvation in the country to conclude a deal behind the back of the Arab nation and the Palestinian people, is the one that is directly responsible for the deterioration of relations that will take place between Ethiopia and the Arab nation. Ahmad called on all international organizations and friendly countries to intervene to halt the campaigns of oppression and expulsion that the Ethiopian regime is carrying out against the Ethiopian people and the Eritrean Arab people in violation of all international values, norms, and laws.

PLO Spokesman on Syria's 'Hostile Attitude'

JN081918 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] PLO official spokesman Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman has affirmed that there are several considerations behind Syria's hostile attitude toward the PLO.

That regime, he said, is essentially opposed to the establishment of a Palestinian state. He added that the Syrian leadership has not supported the establishment of an independent Palestinian state to date.

In press statements published in Amman, Brother Ahmad 'Abd al-Rahman said: In recent years, the Syrian regime has been against the PLO. It wants to cancel the organization's military and political role. The United States is convinced that the Syrian regime is the side that honors agreements and therefore the one which is qualified to negotiate. We have noticed this from Richard Murphy's tours and from the Al-Naqrurah talks. It is no secret that the Syrian regime has pledged to the United States and Israel that it will prevent PLO fighters from entering southern Lebanon under the new plan which is being implemented by that regime.

PLO Radio on Palestinian-Soviet Talks in Moscow

*JN082020 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1555 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The PLO Executive Committee delegation continues to have talks with the CPSU Central Committee in the friendly USSR. The Executive Committee delegation arrived in the USSR in response to an official invitation after the conclusion of the PNC's 17th session held in Amman in November. The Palestinian-USSR talks reiterated the USSR's support for the legitimate Palestinian leadership elected by the 17th PNC. This support for the Palestinian revolution is important at this time because it strengthens the PLO's position in the international arena, especially since there is an international political move to solve the conflict in the Arab region.

The PLO, which has always considered the USSR a friendly superpower that is an ally and supporter of our Palestinian masses' struggle, is concerned about strengthening and deepening the relationship with the USSR and all socialist bloc countries because they are the force confronting the capitalist imperialist camp. The PLO asserted the important role which the USSR can play in any peace plan in the region. The PLO agreed on the Soviet initiative in an announced statement.

The Palestinian revolution looks at its relationship with the USSR in a strategic way that tolerates no bargaining, despite the ambiguous Soviet stand during the 17th PNC. At that time, Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said: The USSR is a friend and ally. We are aware of its circumstances and interests in the Arab region, as well as its alliance with some parties which are confronting us as a revolution which is independent in making its decisions.

When the PLO emerged healthy from all conspiracies against it, a decisive and suitable decision was made to revitalize the Palestinian institutions. The PLO's decision to hold the PNC was a historic decision adopted by the Palestinian revolution in order to continue the revolution amid many mines planted before it. The Palestinian leadership could wait no longer to convince all friendly and allied countries of the importance of its decision.

Adopting a decisive decision at the proper time is a matter of life or death. History alone will judge if the decision was right or wrong. Current events prove the soundness of this stand. Despite the clouds which surrounded the Soviet stand on the legitimate

Palestinian leadership, which were created by those who cast doubts, the USSR's stand in support of the PLO was clearly noted.

The French delegation representing the ruling Socialist Party in France, which visited Moscow last week and held talks with senior Soviet officials, stated to the international press that the USSR officially informed France that it supports the PLO leadership under Brother Abu 'Ammar.

The delegation added that the Soviets were mistaken for a period of time in assessing the situation and the balance of power in the Palestinian arena.

Kuwait's *AL-QABAS* published the French delegation's statement that it was surprised when the Soviets admitted that Moscow was hesitant last year concerning the stand it should adopt toward the PLO leadership and Syria.

The Soviet side explained that Moscow did not fully realize Yasir 'Arafat's popularity and strength in the West Bank and Gaza, as well as in the Fatah movement.

The Soviet side said that Moscow improved its stand on this issue shortly before the 17th PNC session in Amman, that it now strongly supports the PLO leadership under Yasir 'Arafat, that it calls for maintaining PLO unity and its Arab and international assets, and that it is working to this end in its Arab and international contacts.

O brothers, the PLO, whose faith in its allies has never wavered, is very concerned about strengthening its ties with the friendly USSR, just as it is concerned about its independent Palestinian decisionmaking.

The Palestinian revolutionaries, who preserved the honor of Soviet weapons in one of the greatest epics in the Palestinian-Israeli war in 1982, are looking at the Palestinian-USSR talks with great hope in order to strengthen the relationship with the USSR in the interest of national and international struggle.

PFLP Condemns Murder of Member in Romania

JN082001 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1840 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Damascus, 8 Jan (SANA) — The PFLP has denounced the ugly crime committed by symbols of the deviationist rightists in the Palestinian arena, a crime that resulted in the martyrdom of one of its members named Muhammad al-Khatib, who was fatally stabbed at Timisoara University in Romania.

In a press statement published here today, a responsible source in the PFLP said that a group of symbols of the deviationist rightists used knives to attack a number of the Front's elements in the university. They killed student Muhammad al-Khatib and wounded a number of other students.

The PFLP called on all Palestinian national forces, bodies, personalities, and organizations, as well as Arab and friendly forces, to condemn the crime and to call for unveiling and punishing the criminals and those behind them.

Military Patrol Attacked With Bombs in Nabulus

JN081909 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1618 GMT

8 Jan 85

[Text] In accordance with the revolution leadership's directives and decisions to escalate armed struggle inside the occupied homeland, the main conflict arena, our heroic revolutionaries operating inside the homeland yesterday afternoon attacked with incendiary bombs a Zionist military patrol while passing in downtown Nabulus in the occupied West Bank. Two Zionist military vehicles were burned and their occupants were killed or wounded in the attack.

A Zionist military spokesman admitted the operation, but, as usual, did not disclose his losses. He said his forces surrounded the area and detained a large number of Palestinian citizens on the pretext of complicity in the operation.

INA: OPEC Oil Ministers To Meet in Geneva 28 Jan

JN091236 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1225 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Vienna, 9 Jan (INA) — OPEC oil ministers will hold an extraordinary meeting in Geneva on 28 January to discuss the latest developments on the oil market.

An official source at the OPEC headquarters here today told the INA correspondent that the topics to be discussed will deal with monitoring of production and exports, member countries oil prices, and price differentials.

GULF AFFAIRS

AFP: South Korean Freighter Hit off Iran

NC081053 Paris AFP in English 1045 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] London, Jan 8 (AFP)—A South Korean freighter, the *Hanlim Mariner*, was hit by a missile at 0930 GMT today off the Iranian coast, Lloyd's reported here. There was no immediate report of casualties or of the state of the vessel. The 11,307 tonne freighter is owned by the Han Lim Shipping Company of Seoul.

GCC Labor Ministers Hold Session in Bahrain 8 Jan

GF081644 Manama WAKH in English 1510 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Manama, 8 Jan (WAKH)—Ministers of labor and social affairs in the Arab Gulf countries held a session here today to discuss the financial and administrative regulations of the follow-up bureau. The session, expected to end tonight, will include the appointment of a secretary general for the follow-up bureau and the date and place for holding the eighth session.

BAHRAIN

Foreign Minister Receives Message From Iran

GF091120 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah has received a verbal message from Iranian Foreign Minister Dr 'Ali Akbar Velayati on bilateral relations and current developments in the Gulf region. The message was delivered by Mohammad 'Arab, Iranian assistant foreign minister for administrative affairs, during his meeting with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak here today. The Iranian official arrived in Manama from Doha earlier today on a 2-day visit to the state of Bahrain within his tour of a number of the region's states.

KUWAIT

Egyptian Trade Group Concludes Visit, Leaves for Iraq

NC041910 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 4 Jan (MENA)—An Egyptian trade delegation led by Economy Ministry Counselor Mukhtar Hashim left Kuwait today for Iraq following a 7-day visit. The delegation, which includes 27 members representing public and private sector companies, met with a number of Kuwaiti officials in the commercial, tourism, and economic sectors.

The delegation also held talks with Kuwaiti businessmen and investors aimed at promoting the trade and financial relations between the two countries and at marketing Egyptian products in Kuwait.

The delegation's visit to Kuwait was part of a tour that so far has covered the UAE and Qatar, and will also include visits to Iraq and Jordan.

Turkish Foreign Minister on Mideast Issues

GF081534 Kuwait AL-RAY AL-'AMM in Arabic
7 Jan 85 p 3

[Report on interview with Vahit Halefoglu, Turkish foreign minister, by AL-RAY AL-'AMM correspondent 'Abdallah al-Qaq in Kuwait — no date given]

[Excerpts] On the Iraq-Iran war, the Turkish foreign minister said: During my discussions in Kuwait, no new proposals were made and none of us was able to present a concrete initiative on the war. However, I explained the role that Turkey has tried to play, in view of its close relations with both sides in the conflict. The evenhanded nonaligned policy of Turkey qualifies it to mediate in order to continue the dialogue between the two countries, as Turkey is a member of the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

The Turkish foreign minister said that his country has two concerns about the war: first, the fear of expansion to include other parties in the region, and, second, its escalation. Both acts are in opposition to the interests of the countries in the region and to peace in general.

On his country's position on the Reagan plan, the Turkish foreign minister said: Turkey expressed its stand on the Palestinian issue several times at several levels. Our position in this regard is very clear. We support the Palestinians' right to establish a homeland in their country, and we oppose Israel's policy in the occupied territories of continued settlements and altering the land's demography. Also, we support the demand for Israel's withdrawal from all occupied territories, which it has occupied since the 6-day war, including East Jerusalem, as Jerusalem is a holy city for Muslims.

['Abdallah al-Qaq] Do you think that the Reagan plan is a sufficient framework for resolving the Middle East conflict?

[Vahit Halefoglu] There are several proposals for a solution. However, we believe that the solution for the issue must be within the outlines I have clarified.

[Al-Qaq] What is your position with regard to the USSR's call for an international conference to resolve the conflict?

[Halefoglu] As I have said, there are several proposals, such as Moscow's proposals and the Reagan plan. However, without giving the Palestinians their right to self-determination, to live in their homeland and regain their territories, it is difficult to achieve any solution. We believe that the Palestinians must be allowed to decide for themselves.

[Al-Qaq] What is Turkey's position on deploying cruise and Pershing missiles on its territory?

[Halefoglu] We do not want these missiles, now or in the future.

[Al-Qaq] How do describe your relationship with the USSR?

[Halefoglu] Last week the USSR premier, Tikhonov, made an official visit to Turkey, thus becoming the first USSR premier to visit Turkey since 1975. His visit resulted in the signing of two agreements, the first a 5-year agreement dealing with trade

exchange, and the second a 10-year agreement dealing with scientific, economic, and technical cooperation. Several months ago we signed a 25-year agreement with the Soviets to import natural gas. Turkey currently imports its oil from Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Libya. Even the PRC offered to sell us oil during my visit there some months ago.

Date of General Election Advanced to 20 Feb

LD081527 Kuwait KUNA in English 1237 GMT 8 Jan 85

[By Hassan al-Sayeq]

[Text] Kuwait, Jan 8 (KUNA) — H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Sabah Tuesday announced the government's consent to advance the date of the coming general elections to take place next February 20.

The national polls were originally scheduled for coming February 23. However, during the National Assembly's ordinary session held this morning, a number of deputies raised the issue and spoke in favor of early elections. Towards the end of the sitting, his highness formally agreed to the wish of the majority and advanced the election date by three days. In reply, deputies spoke praising the government's cooperation and positive response in this respect.

Oil Minister Holds Talks in Beijing With Counterpart

For Beijing coverage of the visit to the PRC of Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah al-Adhbi al-Sabah, Kuwaiti oil minister, including talks on cooperation in oil exploration and development, see the Middle East & Africa section of the 7 January China *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

QATAR

Foreign Minister Receives Velayati Message

GF081100 Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani, minister of state for foreign affairs, received at his office this morning Mohammad 'Arab, Iranian assistant foreign minister for administrative and financial affairs, who conveyed a verbal message from Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati dealing with bilateral relations and current developments in the region.

During the meeting they also reviewed relations between the state of Qatar and the Islamic Republic of Iran and the latest developments of the Iraqi-Iranian war. The meeting was attended by Mohammad Taqi Mashayekh, Iranian charge d'affaires in Qatar.

Finance Minister Meets Senator Percy, U.S. Envoy

GF081650 Manama WAKH in English 1520 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 8 Jan (WAKH) — Finance and Petroleum Minister Shaykh 'Abd al-'Aziz ibn Khalifah Al Thani received here today former president [title as received] of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Charles Percy, who is currently on a visit to Qatar. The meeting which was attended by U.S. Ambassador to Qatar Charles Dunbar dealt with economic topics of joint interest and the international oil situation.

AL-'ARAB Calls for Meeting on Ethiopian Jews

GF080900 Doha QNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Doha, 8 Jan (QNA) — The Qatari paper *AL-'ARAB* says the plot to transport thousands of Ethiopian Jews to the Zionist entity is the work of several forces plotting against Arab causes and Arab security and posing a threat to the entire Arab nation. We must act to confront such a threat.

In an editorial published today, *AL-'ARAB* calls for a meeting of Arab ministers within the Arab League framework to discuss the matter — a matter that has destructive strategic aspects. The paper calls for the denunciation of all the forces that have supported the plot.

AL-'ARAB says that thousands of Jews who arrived in occupied Palestine from Ethiopia have been quickly trained so that they can be used as an instrument of aggression against the Arab nation. The paper adds that this is a great challenge to the Arab nation which has been preoccupied with disputes among itself while the enemy makes long-term plans.

SAUDI ARABIA

Further Reportage on Visit of Turkish Minister

Received by Crown Prince

LD081346 Riyadh SPA in English 1220 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 8 SPA — Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the deputy premier and commander of the National Guard, received here today Turkish Deputy Premier and Minister of State Kaya Erdem, who is currently on a visit to Saudi Arabia to attend meetings of the joint Saudi-Turkish commission, which began in the Saudi capital earlier today. The meeting was attended by Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aba al-Khayl and the Turkish ambassador to Saudi Arabia.

Later, Erdem conferred with Communications Minister Husayn al-Mansuri on existing cooperation between the two countries in the field of transportation and the Turkish pilgrims' travel to the Kingdom during the upcoming pilgrimage season. Following the meeting, Al-Mansuri said they would discuss later a report prepared by the commission on transportation between the two countries.

Joint Commission Meets*LD081349 Riyadh SPA in English 1213 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Riyadh, Jan 8, SPA — The joint Saudi-Turkish commission began its second session here today under the co-chairmanship of Saudi Finance and National Economy Minister Mohammad Aba al-Khayl and Turkish Deputy Premier Kaya Erdem.

Welcoming the Turkish delegation, Aba al-Khayl praised the outcome of the commission's first session in Turkey last year, which he said led to the promotion of economic cooperation and the implementation of a technical and economic cooperation accord between the two countries. He added that the current session would provide a chance for the assessment of development of cooperation between them during past years.

Aba al-Khayl said cooperation between the two countries had been strengthened by the last visits of Turkish President Kenan Evren and Crown Prince 'Abdallah, the deputy premier and commander of the National Guard. He also praised the economic development made by Turkey during the past few years due to the implementation of sound economic policies aimed at realizing economic stability and development in the country.

Aba al-Khayl praised the Turkish role in the field of Islamic economic cooperation and its participation in all economic organizations affiliated to the ICO. He said the agreement for economic, technical and commercial cooperation between Turkey and Saudi Arabia was organizing cooperation between them on scientific basis. Referring to bilateral relations in the economic field, he expressed satisfaction with the steady progress in this respect.

Referring to trade exchanges between the two countries in the past six years, he said the Kingdom's exports to Turkey had increased 20-fold from SR90 million to SR1,897 million while its imports increased from SR151 million to 1,164 million, registering a seven-fold rise. He said the Kingdom's imports from Turkey during the first half of 1984, had reached more than SR740 million.

Regarding joint Saudi-Turkish investments, Aba al-Khayl said there were 35 joint ventures, involving a capital expenditure of more than SR300 million. He said seven of these joint ventures are of industrial nature, with a capital of SR145 million, with the Turkish side contributing nearly 44 percent of the total investment. The finance and national economy minister said these seven companies are engaged in production of petrochemicals, building materials, furniture and sanitary utensils. The remaining 28 joint ventures worth SR96.5 million are dealing with building contracts, cooling and refineries.

Aba al-Khayl said the Saudi Fund for Development was taking part in a number of development projects in Turkey, adding that it had taken part in financing seven electric, railway and air transportation schemes.

He expressed thanks to the Turkish manpower and its role in the Kingdom's development.

After the meeting, Aba al-Khayl said the two sides agreed to set up four sub-committees, to discuss each matter separately and in-depth. They are the economic and development committee, the trade and industry relations committee, the transportation and technical cooperation committee, and the businessmen's committee.

He added that the two sides had expressed strong desire to increase the volume of trade exchanges between the two countries.

Defense Minister Interviewed on Economic Program*LD081303 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0920 GMT 7 Jan 85*

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 7 Jan (SPA) — His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, has reaffirmed that the Kingdom's economic balancing program is a result of the conviction that the program's objectives should depend on the transfer of advanced technology to the Kingdom. This came in an interview given by his royal highness to SPA.

Question: Your Highness, on 22d May 1984 you made a statement on the economic balancing program and explained its concept and aims. Today we ask your highness to point out the nature of the economic balancing program within the Air Force's project of command, control and contacts — the Shield of Peace project.

Answer: I would like to point out that the Shield of Peace project which has been approved by the king will contribute — God willing — to raising the effectiveness of our Air Force in defending our holy places.

Question: Your Highness, will you please give us a brief account of the projects which the economic balancing program will encompass?

Answer: The contractors have submitted many projects which involve advanced technology, including those which are based on electronic industries, such as printed circuit boards, communications equipment, computers, electrical projects and other aircraft related items.

Question: Finally, your highness, will the Ministry of Defense continue to adopt the concept of economic balancing in its future projects?

Answer: In fact, the adoption of the economic balancing program by the Ministry of Defense and Aviation in the Shield of Peace project for the Air Force convinces us that any arms deal should not merely be the transfer of a weapons system from the exporter to the importer. These are the king's directives. Proceeding from this, we have issued our directives to officials in the Air Force to study the ways and means for the implementation of this principle. Concepts have crystallized and studies have been prepared. We have reached agreement with the contractors and have begun the first steps leading to the realization of the economic balancing program. We hope to continue this march in order to realize everything good for our dear homeland.

Riyadh Comments on Program

*LD081554 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
8 Jan 85*

["Analyses" by Hamzah Muhsin al-Saqqaf]

[Excerpts] The economic balancing program has become one of the most important strategic dimensions of the Kingdom's development plans and its foremost objective. This is evident from the many achievements made within the framework of this program.

The project announced yesterday by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation, and inspector general, linking the program with the project of command, control, and telecommunications — the Shield of Peace project, which contributes to raising the effectiveness of our Air Force — is a major step by the Kingdom on the road of development and building. This project will enable the economic balancing program to transfer advanced technology to the Kingdom. The Kingdom will reap huge returns from this development approach, strategically enriching the Kingdom's development and greatly benefiting international relations within the framework of North-South economic relations.

The utilization of one of the most important and largest military building projects for general national economic development affirms the sound course pursued by the leadership in administering the Kingdom's policy and affirms the great care shown in linking these with the interests of the homeland and citizens and with the exploitation of their programs for the good of development plans.

Undoubtedly, the development the Kingdom is now trying to establish and consolidate under the leadership of King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz constitutes an initiative with a positive, worldwide effect, benefiting development projects in the Third World in general and the developing countries in particular.

The king's directive that arms deals must not be confined to merely transferring arms systems from the exporting party to the importing party and that the state must benefit from military advanced technology transfer will inevitably become the national policy of the leaderships loyal to their homelands and peoples.

As Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has pointed out, linking the economic balancing program with the Shield of Peace project — which helps to increase the effectiveness of our Air Force — will lead to the creation of a series of modern industries. It will, thereby, fulfill the Kingdom's desire to diversify its industrial base in a way that will meet its needs and will help exploit its oil revenues for the good of its national economy.

Thanks to the stability and the strong economic condition the Kingdom enjoys, the attainment of positive results will only be a matter of time. Furthermore, it is an operation guaranteed by the achievements made under the economic balancing program and appreciated by the investors.

Dailies 'Strongly Condemn' Ethiopian Airlift

LD091042 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0710 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Riyadh, 9 Jan (SPA) — Two dailies, *AL-NADWAH* and *AL-YAWM*, commented on the operation of smuggling Ethiopian Jews — the Falashas — to occupied Palestine. Both papers strongly condemned all those who participated in this operation.

AL-NADWAH writes we could expect such attitudes and conspiracy with Zionism from all those who participated in the Moses operation. As usual, Zionism, which drove the Falashas to occupied Palestine, is today trying to deceive the world by claiming that the operation was humanitarian, while the fact remains that the operation was aggressive and planned about 10 years ago when the Jewish Rabbinate recognized the Falashas as Jews.

The Moses operation is yet another example that we are indifferent onlookers while our enemy uses all means to consolidate the forces of aggression in Palestine. They place more Jews in that country at the expense of the landowners with the help of the same powers who harm everything that is Arab and who support aggression, falsehood and Zionism.

AL-YAWM says the new point in the reports about the operation is that the news, as well as the political statements, confirm that the Ethiopian regime carried out a commercial barter operation, the most criminal and unethical operation in the modern history of mankind.

AL-YAWM denounces the operation and wonders how the Marxist regime in Ethiopia dared to carry out such an operation and how the international community could allow it. The paper says that the whole operation was carried out by both sides, Ethiopia and Israel, who represent carbon copies of the Soviet Union and the United States. Logic says that an operation such as this must have been agreed upon by both sides — the Americans and the Soviets agree and pay a high price for human rights. How degrading that this happened with the knowledge of the international community and the ignorance of world conscience!

PDRY**YAR Unity Affairs Official Arrives 8 Jan**

*GF081730 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs in the northern part of the homeland, arrived in Aden today.

In a statement to ANA upon his arrival, Brother al-'Arashi said that he will deliver a message to Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, from Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress in the northern part of the homeland, on consultation and coordi-

nation on internal and external issues in the two parts of the homeland.

The minister pointed out that he will discuss with Minister of State Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh issues of coordination between the two parts of the Yemen and the formation of a new agenda for the unity committees.

Received by Chairman

GF082012 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received in his office this evening Brother Yahya Husayn al-'Arashi, minister of state for unity affairs in the northern part of the homeland who conveyed to him a message from his Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, dealing with the unity efforts exerted by the leaderships of the two parts.

During the meeting, Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expressed the determination of the leaders in the southern part of the homeland to continue the work and coordination with leaders in the northern part of the homeland in light of the results and decisions of the sessions of the Higher Yemeni Council aimed at achieving unity of the homeland and the people on democratic and peaceful bases.

The meeting was attended by Brother Mahmud 'Abdallah 'Ushaysh, minister of state.

YAR

London Weekly Interviews President on Unity, Security
GF080848 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT
7 Jan 85

[Interview with Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress, by London-based weekly newspaper *KULL AL-ARAB*—date and place not given]

[Excerpt] Question: A while ago, efforts for achieving unity between Sanaa and Aden were delayed. What are the main obstacles preventing the success of unity?

Answer: Just the opposite. [Words indistinct] what has been achieved so far eliminates the existence of any obstacles for regaining Yemeni unity which is a sacred goal [words indistinct]. It is a strategic goal, a priority issue for the leadership of both sides. Such a great goal demands that all financial and moral means be provided. We, and our brothers in the southern part, believe we are progressing along the right path for achieving this goal. What has been achieved in our march toward unity is not insignificant. The unity committees in the two parts have achieved positive results. [Words indistinct] in coordination, inte-

gration, and cooperation in all fields. In addition, the Yemeni Higher Council has made good strides, and we will follow suit along the path toward future unity. Unity is the destiny and fate of our people.

Question: The YAR is the only [Arab] country which has renewed the friendship and cooperation treaty with the Soviet Union despite its Arab and Islamic relations. What are the background and reasons for this decision?

Answer: Our foreign policy, in accordance with the goals and principles of the revolution and which are embodied in the national charter and the political action program, is based on open relations with all countries as long as these relations do not undermine our economic and political independence, the unity of the homeland, and our people's and Islamic beliefs. In accordance with our keenness that relations must be based on mutual respect and equitable dealing, all our relations with Eastern and Western countries should be viewed in such a light.

Our country was one of the first Arab countries to establish relations with the Soviet Union. Our Arab and Islamic relations do not conflict with our relations with the Soviet Union or with the United States or with any other country. We maintain relations with the Soviet Union and East European countries as well as with the United States and West European countries. Our country's foreign policy is based on nonalignment and is respected and understood by all the world countries. Our policy is designed in such a way that our relations with others should not surpass our country's interests.

Question: Proposals have been made recently to achieve some sort of integration between the two Yemens and the GCC states. Is this true? Have these proposals been presented officially to the GCC? What has been achieved so far?

Answer: We believe in and support any step made by two or more Arab countries to achieve some kind of coordination and integration. We consider such efforts a success in that a practical step is taken toward thwarting the obstacles facing the development and progress of our Arab countries and toward mobilizing the energies of our countries for the purpose of establishing a strong Arab and Islamic society which adheres to its religion and its values. This is our point of view which is confirmed by the national charter. The national charter also affirms that, due to our position, we should have distinguished relations with our brothers in the Arabian Peninsula and Gulf countries based on clarity and mutual respect and which develop on the basis of common fraternal work in order to achieve our common interests. Thank God our relations with them are good. We have ministerial coordination committees and councils with the majority of the GCC states.

Question: What is the nature of relations between the YAR and Ethiopia, especially since Ethiopia has a friendship and cooperation agreement with the Soviet Union and maintains very good relations with Aden? Reports say that Ethiopia wants to influence the YAR's airspace and waters.

Answer: Our relations with Ethiopia are good. We fully agree that the security of the Red Sea means the security of the

countries overlooking it. Ethiopia is a friendly neighbor. Our relations are based on mutual respect and noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

Question: What role is the YAR playing in settling Palestinian-Palestinian differences? What are the results leading to rapprochement among Palestinians?

Answer: The YAR's role in solving Palestinian-Palestinian differences, though small, is an important one through which we can reach with the other brothers a milestone toward achieving Palestinian rapprochement. We hope that the dimensions of this role and its influence will become clear in the near future and that the Palestinian revolution will be able to overcome all crises it is facing.

Question: Is it true that the YAR has discovered oil fields as was reported recently by news agencies?

Answer: Yes. This was previously announced. All current exploration operations emphasize that the results are encouraging and promising.

PDRY Foreign Policy Delegation Arrives in Sanaa

*GF081910 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] Brother members of the PDRY side in the joint committee for foreign policy arrived in Sanaa today. They are led by Brother Muhammad 'Ali 'Imayah, deputy foreign minister, and will attend the meetings of the committee, which will begin in Sanaa tomorrow.

XINHUA Interviews Mubarak on Current Issues

NC081330 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] President Husni Mubarak has reasserted that the solution to the Palestinian problem is the key to comprehensive peace in the Middle East and that the PLO must have a voice in reaching this solution. In an interview with the Chinese news agency, XINHUA, President Mubarak said Egypt will fully cooperate with the United States and with the other concerned parties in an effort to restore the Palestinian people's legitimate rights. President Mubarak said that during his recent visit to the port of Aqaba he discussed with Jordan's King Husayn ways of dealing with the United States. He added that the Egyptian Government held contacts with other sides, including Israel, to give momentum to the peace negotiations and to overcome the deadlock.

President Mubarak stressed that the restoration of normal relations among the Arab states will create a strong foundation for the Middle East issue. He pointed out that the current division in the Arab ranks is not in the interests of the [Arab] cause.

Regarding the situation in Lebanon, President Mubarak called for the withdrawal of Israeli and foreign forces from Lebanon so that the Lebanese people can determine their fate. He pointed out that the continued delay of the foreign forces' withdrawal from Lebanon threatens Lebanon's independence and peace in the region.

Prime Minister on Arab Ties, Palestinian Issue

NC082000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Kuwait, 8 Jan (MENA) — Egyptian Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has declared that the Camp David accords do not place absolute restrictions on Egypt's will or on its actions on Arab issues. In this regard, 'Ali pointed to Egypt's position on the strike at the Iraqi nuclear reactor, Israel's invasion of Lebanon, and its strike at the Palestinian resistance and siege of the Palestinians in Beirut and Tripoli. He also referred to Egypt's role in guarding the ships that carried the resistance men to the YAR.

In a statement for today's issue of the Kuwaiti weekly *MIR'AT AL-UMMAH*, 'Ali referred to Egypt's stand on the reinforcement of Iraq's defenses against an Iranian invasion of its border. He said that Egypt also played a role in easing the tension between Algeria and Morocco. 'Ali pointed out that this position held by Egypt is a genuine Arab stand and that the Camp David agreements were not an obstacle to it.

Referring to the issue of Egypt's return to the Arab League, 'Ali said that certain Arab countries are using it as a pretext for convening an Arab summit, requiring a unanimous decision. He indicated that the issue of unanimity is not addressed in the Arab League Charter, and noted that there was no unanimity at the Baghdad summit. 'Ali asked, "Why this insistence?" He said that Egypt's relations with the Arab countries are improving, and cited the YAR, the PDRY, and Algeria as examples. He said that the return to normalcy is the natural and most useful path.

Referring to the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue, 'Ali expressed the hope that it will attain specific results, particularly as all interested parties fully recognize the need for peace, for the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, and for a just and comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem through a peace process. 'Ali said that this depends upon the success of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue on one hand, and on the Israeli position on the other.

On the international conference that King Husayn of Jordan has called for, 'Ali said that the convocation of such a conference requires the agreement of all parties. He added that he is not optimistic about this because of the Israeli and U.S. stands. The responsibility falls on these two countries, because they have not agreed to this conference. As a result, 'Ali said, Israel and the United States must find a way to resolve the Palestinian issue.

'Ali described the assassination of Fahd al-Qawasimi, PLO Executive Committee member, as an extremely grave matter, particularly if it is linked to the attempt on the life of Hani al-Hasan, adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. He expressed the hope that there will be no liquidation of Palestinians by other Palestinians.

Regarding Arab investment in Egypt, 'Ali welcomed this, indicating that Egypt has provided many facilities for Arab and foreign investment. He said that Arab investment in Egypt amounts to 18 percent of the total volume.

'Ali Interviewed on Foreign Finance, Emergency Laws

PM091101 Cairo AKHBAR AL-YAWM in Arabic
5 Jan 85 pp 1,3

[Interview with Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali by Sana' al-Sa'id; date, place not given]

[Excerpts] Al-Sa'id: How true are the reports that the United States has taken a stand restrictive to Egypt and supportive of Israel, as reflected in its reluctance to finance what it had already agreed to finance in the field of nuclear reactors and, more important, the reports that it is trying to persuade other Western states not to finance nuclear energy projects? The question is, how true are these reports, and has the United States set preconditions for financing nuclear stations?

'Ali: The truth of the matter is that the U.S. Import-Export Bank originally decided not to participate in financing of nuclear stations in Egypt but, after studying the steps Egypt is taking to strengthen its economy — which is above all Egypt's business — the U.S. bank felt reassured and actually decided to participate with any state in financing the nuclear stations. That means that we now have financing offers from the United States, France, and Italy.

Al-Sa'id: What about the FRG, which in the beginning promised to finance two Egyptian reactors?

'Ali: The FRG has not made a decision yet, but when Kohl was asked about that during President Mubarak's visit to Germany

last year, he said that he would view the matter in the light of German-Egyptian friendship.

Al-Sa'id: There has been much talk about our economic subservience to the United States. It has been said that our dependence on U.S. aid and loans is what makes us or compels us to follow the U.S. political line. How true is that, and how dependent are we on the United States economically? We know that he who is free from economic subservience is the master of his own decisions.

'Ali: First of all, Egypt will never be subservient to any super-power. We have never been a satellite state. Our will is free and our political line independent. That does not prevent friendship between us and the United States. That friendship has never prevented us from saying "no" to the United States on many occasions. We believe that there is equality between Egypt and the United States. We are friends of the United States, but we are not lackeys or agents of the United States or any other state in the world. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that the steps Egypt is taking to boost its economy and development are bound to lessen Egypt's reliance of foreign states. Agricultural development is an example here.

Al-Sa'id: Israel is working on a free zone project with two terminals, one on the Red Sea and the other on the Mediterranean. How will that affect the Egyptian economy, and are there any similar Egyptian projects?

'Ali: The United States offered the former Egyptian Government the possibility of a similar project in Egypt, but no decision was made and no agreement reached on that. At present such a project is out of the question as a priority, because there are many other issues which we believe should top the list of government priorities at present. Meanwhile, Egypt is a free country and its imports in accordance with current laws. At the same time it looks after its own interests.

Al-Sa'id: Foreign banks are today seen as a brand of shame and an octopus plundering and draining the Egyptian economy, pushing it to the brink of crisis. Most of these banks concentrate simply on banking transactions, without venturing into production projects of interest to Egypt.

'Ali: On the contrary, many banks, or rather most of the banks invest their funds in numerous specific production projects in Egypt.

Al-Sa'id: I would still like to know if the government intends to stop licensing new foreign banks and be content with their present number.

'Ali: I want to point out that no new banks have been granted licenses to operate in the past few years. The present number of foreign banks is sufficient. There is no need for more such banks in Egypt.

Al-Sa'id: Emergency laws, as the name suggests, are usually introduced to deal with certain emergency cases which require such laws. Today we wonder why these laws are still in force. Are

you still convinced that they are necessary, and what steps is the government taking to abolish them?

'Ali: First let me say that what matters is not the laws, but their enforcement. That also applies to the emergency laws. What harm is there in keeping these laws if we only apply them in cases of national security? As an example, I cite the Libyan attempt to assassinate one of the Libyan refugees living in Cairo last November, and many other attempts which the Egyptian security authorities know of but say nothing publicly about. What is important is that the emergency laws have not been, and will not be, used except for security against foreign subversive operations, which some states resort to in an attempt to undermine stability in Egypt.

Al-Sa'id: But since the emergency laws were not enforced even in the case of the recent Libyan plot to assassinate the former Libyan prime minister, who is living in Egypt, why keep these laws at all?

'Ali: Thank God, the circumstances were such that they enabled the Egyptian security authorities to abort the plot without applying the emergency laws, but the interior minister could have needed to invoke these laws. The fact that he did not is therefore a point for us, not against us.

Al-Sa'id: In your view as prime minister, how can one strike a balance between party responsibilities and government responsibilities to ensure that neither outweighs the other and that the party does not interfere in government affairs?

'Ali: There is no doubt that our government is an NDP government. It stems from the NDP, but at the same time it is eager to serve the broad masses without any discrimination between one party and another. It treats everyone equally and it serves all Egypt. There can be no contradiction between the government and the party. There is continuous coordination between the party and the government on all national issues — which in fact consolidates party work and government work equally.

Jordan's 'Arar Criticizes U.S. Support for Israel

PM081434 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 7 Jan 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister 'Arar Says: Sea Line Between Egypt and Jordan To Be Inaugurated in April"]

[Excerpts] Jordanian Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Sulayman 'Arar said before returning to Amman yesterday that, during his visit to Jordan in April, Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali will open the sea line between the ports of Aqaba and Nuwaybi.

The Jordanian deputy prime minister described the current situation in the Middle East as bad. He added: "We do not feel that there is any favorable development. That is because Arab divisions are at their worst. The current inter-Arab problems have weakened the cause. The states in a position to influence the issue do not feel that the Arabs are free to act and have therefore

relaxed their efforts to promote a just solution. That is why Arab interests are more important than Arab consensus when it comes to Arab League resolutions.

Referring to the United States, 'Arar said that its attitude is not different from that of Israel. He added: It pours money and arms into Israel, supports it economically, participates with it in the manufacture of heavy arms, gives it unlimited political support, and joins it in major and serious industries. All this does not herald easy solutions, as some people imagine.

He continued: We are not against the United States, but it has given Israel unlimited support and has even gone back on its earlier decisions, such as those condemning settlements and the building of settlements. We asked it to supply us with arms, but it refused. We must protect our children and our villages and seek arms from any country. We are considered friends of the United States, but we do not feel that we are American agents. We are also friends of the Soviet Union. We seek its friendship as we seek the friendship of all states in the world.

The Jordanian deputy prime minister stressed that Arab coordination is extremely necessary.

On Jordanian-Syrian relations 'Arar said that there are no problems between the two countries and that both have occupied territories and are confrontation states. He added: We have tried to get Syria to adopt at least a neutral stand on the Iraq-Iran war. They probably moved in the opposite direction. They do not approve of our attitude to that war. We believe that a solution could be reached at a summit conference. We are supposed to cooperate with one another on matters on which we agree and excuse one another in connection with issues on which we disagree. We should cooperate to protect ourselves against the grave danger which Israel represents, and that is possible.

He also said that, although there are differences between Egypt and Libya, Egypt has never fought Libya despite its ability to do so. There are differences of opinion, he said, which are temporary and stem from individuals, because there are no problems between the two peoples.

He pointed out that a summit conference should be held by the Arab League member states and that such a conference would be able to discuss all aspects of Arab relations.

Concluding his statement to *AL-AHRAM*, 'Arar said that he and Egyptian Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi have agreed to appoint liaison officers between Jordan and Egypt to combat crime, including drug smuggling. The agreement will be signed in the very near future.

Mubarak Receives Message From Maldivian President
NC081324 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT
 8 Jan 85

[Text] President Mubarak today received the Maldivian Interior Minister who handed him a written message from the Maldivian president on bilateral cooperation in various fields. The meeting was attended by Interior Minister Ahmad Rushdi.

President Mubarak To Visit Greece in February
NC081535 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT
 8 Jan 85

[Text] President Muhammad Husni Mubarak will visit Greece at the beginning of February. During the visit, he will hold talks with senior Greek Government officials dealing with the international situation and the future of bilateral relations. The Middle East problem and Red Sea security will be foremost among the issues that President Mubarak will discuss with the Greek leaders.

Economy Minister Leaves on 5-Day Visit to Ethiopia
NC082254 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2240 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — Dr Mustafa al-Sa'id, minister of economy and foreign trade, left Cairo this evening for Ethiopia, leading a delegation on a 5-day visit at the invitation of the Ethiopian trade minister. During his visit, Dr al-Sa'id will hold important economic talks with senior Ethiopian officials to bolster and develop economic cooperation in various areas and to stimulate bilateral trade exchange. Prior to his departure, Dr al-Sa'id stressed Egypt's interest in strengthening cooperation with its African neighbors, particularly the Nile basin countries.

Chadian Envoy Leaves Cairo for Home
NC090650 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2250 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — Mahamat (Nouri), special envoy of the Chadian president, left Cairo this evening for home following a visit to Egypt during which he delivered a message to President Husni Mubarak from Chadian President Hissein Habre. During the 2-day visit, the Chadian envoy also met with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

AL-AHRAM: Tabah Talks To Open in January
NC082219 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2158 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Cairo, 8 Jan (MENA) — In its 9 January issue, the newspaper *AL-AHRAM* reports that talks will be initiated between Egypt and Israel at the experts' level to settle the Tabah problem in the second half of January. The paper says that the first round of talks will be held in Beersheba.

Briefs

Ghali Receives Swiss Envoy — Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received Luciano Mordasini, Swiss ambassador to Cairo, today. The two discussed the latest developments in Lebanon and the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories. They also talked about the role of the Red Cross International Committee in safeguarding the Palestinians' human rights, and the need for compliance with the provisions of the Geneva treaties that deal with the treatment of civilians by occupation forces. [Excerpt] [*Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 5 Jan 85 NC*]

3 'Large Maritime Targets' Hit by Air Force

*JN081752 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Communique No 1,705 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 8 January 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The proud Iraqis, who are defending the heavenly laws and protecting Iraq, the homeland of general welfare, love, and civilization, and who are calling for peace out of faith and ability, have with the help of God become a good example for the world's people of how life is built and how the edifice is safeguarded. The following is a roundup of the operations our Armed Forces carried out yesterday evening and today:

1. In pursuit of Iraq's right, as new proof of its ability to cut off the Iranian regime's oil supplies, as a reminder of this regime's real size, and in implementation of our previous warnings to all those dealing with the suspect regime, which sold its country's wealth at a cheap price in order to satisfy the whims of grudge and aggression against Iraq and its people, our bold Air Force carried out successful raids today during which accurate hits were dealt to three large maritime targets at 1130 [0830 GMT], 1552 [1252 GMT], and 1554 [1254 GMT]. The sky hawks and their aircraft returned successfully, guarded by God's care.

2. The gallant sky hawks continued to pour Iraqi wrath down on the enemy's collapsing concentrations in the Maysan sector.

Our aircraft carried out 84 combat missions today, after which the sky hawks returned safely and triumphantly, praise be to God.

3. Using artillery and tanks, some of our forward formations directed intensive strikes against the enemy's fortified targets, positions, vehicles, and engineering activities in the operational sector east of Basra, scoring accurate hits, killing six, wounding others, destroying three infantry positions and three medium machine gun emplacements, and burning one excavator.

4. One of our forward units fired on enemy positions, troop movements, and weapon emplacements in the Maysan sector,

killing one troop and destroying one mounted 106-mm gun, killing its crew.

5. One infantry position was destroyed in the central sector of the operational theater.

6. The criminal enemy shelled several civilian areas in Basra with heavy artillery, damaging three houses. Thus, the Iranian regime continues to violate the UN-sponsored agreement on civilian targets.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 8 January 1985

Hungary's Marjai, Delegation Arrive in Baghdad

JN082028 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1945 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Jan (INA) — Jozsef Marjai, deputy chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, arrived here tonight at the head of a delegation on a 3-day visit to Iraq. The Hungarian official will lead his country's delegation to the 10th session of the Iraqi-Hungarian joint committee for economic, technical, and scientific cooperation, scheduled to begin here tomorrow.

Marjai will also hold talks with Iraqi officials on the means of bolstering bilateral economic cooperation.

Kurdish Clandestine on Anti-Regime Operations

*GF081411 (Clandestine) Voice of Iraqi Kurdistan
in Bahdinani Kurdish 1200 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] On [word indistinct] December 1984, a patrol of our ally, the Iraqi Communist Party, attacked the Mirgah Sur security headquarters, killing two security men and wounding six. After the operation, the brave patrol safely returned to base.

On [word indistinct] January, a brave Peshmerga group of [words indistinct] Division attacked two Army vehicles in the Yarmuk district of Mosul, destroying the vehicles and killing three of their occupants.

Arar, Al-Wazir To Discuss Palestinian IssuesJN081239 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1105 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Excerpt] Amman, 8 Jan (INA) — The Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for bolstering the steadfastness of the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories began meetings here today. The meetings will last 2 days.

The committee, headed on the Jordanian side by Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister; and on the Palestinian side by Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander of the Palestinian revolution forces, will discuss the appropriate means for bolstering the steadfastness of the Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories and ways of enabling the Arab citizens to confront Zionist schemes to evict them from their land, confiscate the land, and establish more settlements.

Arar on Committee MeetingJN081549 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1310 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Amman, 8 Jan (INA) — The Jordanian-Palestinian committee for bolstering the steadfastness of Arab citizens in the occupied Arab territories concluded its first session this afternoon. Sulayman 'Arar, deputy prime minister and interior minister and head of the Jordanian side, said that the committee reviewed the agenda in addition to comprehensively evaluating the resolutions that the committee adopted last year and the extent of their implementation. In a statement to an INA correspondent, 'Arar added that the committee discussed its financial position and the degree of the Arab countries' fulfillment of their commitments to the committee.

'Arar stated that a Jordanian-Palestinian committee delegation will soon tour some Arab countries to discuss the fulfillment of promised obligations. The committee will also discuss means to enable Arab citizens to confront Zionist schemes aimed at expelling them, confiscating their territories, and building more settlements. The committee is scheduled to hold another session later this week.

AL-BAYAN on Arrest of Al-Qawasimi's Assassins*GF081812 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 8 Jan 85 p 1*

[“Exclusive” report from Jordan]

[Text] Informed Jordanian sources reported that military intelligence arrested yesterday those persons who assassinated PLO Executive Committee member Fahd al-Qawasimi in Amman last week. The sources stated that the defendants are currently under intense interrogation to uncover the details of the operation.

AL-BAYAN has also learned that the Jordanian security forces have arrested two young men who were chasing the car of Salim al-Za'nun, alias Abu al-Adib, deputy PNC chairman, after his participating in Al-Qawasimi's funeral.

In spite of the secrecy maintained by security networks in this regard, well-informed sources affirmed that the arrest was made near the entrance of the Marriott Hotel in Jordan where Al-

Za'nun was residing, and that the security networks discovered the operation after a phone call made to the Jordanian security authorities by Abu al-Adib's bodyguard when he became suspicious of the car. Immediately afterward a security patrol arrested them.

Sharaf Meets With Egypt's Information Minister*NC052110 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Jan 85*

[Text] Cairo, 5 Jan (MENA) — Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif held talks with Layla Sharaf, his Jordanian counterpart, in Aqaba today. Their talks dealt with the planned agreement for information cooperation in radio, television, joint media production, and external information. They also touched on ways of enhancing cooperation between the two countries' news agencies and on the exchange of media personnel.

The two ministers discussed ways of exchanging expertise and training and thus increasing the proficiency of media performance in both countries. They also agreed to prepare a final draft of the agreement for information cooperation, which will be signed in Amman in February.

Minister al-Sharif said that both President Mubarak and King Husayn stressed, during a meeting with the two countries' information ministers, that the transmitting stations and networks in Egypt and Jordan should be directly connected to facilitate the immediate exchange of radio and television programs in the future.

Necessity of Soviet Arms Purchases Discussed**AL-RA'Y on U.S. Warnings***JN081325 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 8 Jan 85 p 26*

[Tariq Masarwah article in the “Every Day” column entitled: “Warnings and Weapons”]

[Text] Jordan's incessant reaffirmation that its arms procurement operations do not necessarily constitute political stands is in principle an acknowledgement of a reality with which Jordan likes to deal as long as arms continue to be goods offered on the market and as long as a country can choose the sources of its weapons and their quality and price. But the Jordanian arms procurement operation will become something else if the country which exports arms tries to make of this procurement a political stand. In this case, the Jordanian stand will become a political stand.

U.S. official quarters recently publicly warned against the consequences of Jordan's purchasing Soviet air defense weapons. Although these warnings do not mention sanctions that might result if such a deal were carried out, observers, and we are one of them, suppose that this means that the United States will refrain from responding to any Jordanian arms request that may be submitted to Washington. The U.S. warnings, in the best of cases, will remain unacceptable: first, because these supposed sanctions existed before the implementation of the air defense deal with the Soviet Union because Washington over the years

has refused to sell Jordan the weapons it needed. That's why the supposed sanctions are no more than soap bubbles. Second, the United States imposes political conditions on the sale of its weapons, which Jordan can neither accept nor even discuss so it may enter the "U.S. household," and which the United States likes to call "the participation in the peace process."

Jordan has always desired that the United States would join this peace process, but Washington has always insisted on joining the Israeli process of expansion and aggression. Jordan too has always desired that Washington would participate in establishing peace in the region by adopting a balanced stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict. However, the U.S. stand, which has allied itself with the most extremist Israeli political stands, has always been the major obstacle in the face of the establishment of peace in the region. That's why since the seventies, Jordanian-U.S. relations have experienced silent crises most times, but which sometimes become explosive crises. Anyone who observed Jordan's arms deals throughout this crisis realizes that this crisis has had normal repercussions. Jordan purchased arms from the United Kingdom, from France, and afterward from the Soviet Union, but not from the United States.

We do not have much information on the origin of arms for our Army, but we believe that on the basis of the current realities, Jordanian-Soviet armament relations will develop more and more because Moscow does not impose any political conditions on us before supplying us with weapons, not to mention that it takes into consideration our country's financial circumstances.

The Soviets rightfully believe that stability and security in this region will be achieved if all parties, including Jordan, feel that they are strong and capable of defending themselves, and not by surrendering to the aggressive and expansionist Israeli forces or by feeling frustration toward it.

The U.S. warning of the consequences of the exercise by our country of its legitimate right to defend itself and protect national independence and dignity are warnings issued by an arrogant and stupid mentality, which the Jordanian citizen can only ignore and disdain.

On the other hand, the clean Soviet hand which is extended in friendship to us is a hand that we respect. We extend our hands to it and are not ashamed of the close bonds we have with it. We are ashamed of those who establish close relations with others who have chosen to adopt a hostile stand toward our nation, people, and legitimate interests.

SAWT AL-SHA'B on Pan-Arab Responsibility
JN091202 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic
 9 Jan 85 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "Arab Aid and Pan-Arab Responsibilities"]

[Text] Jordan, through its leader, has frequently asserted its rejection of the policy of linking the process of completing the requirements for defending its existence with any bargaining or conditions of any kind because this is part of our legitimate right to self-defense. It also deals with the essence of our national

dignity. The statements by General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, the commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces, on the near delivery of the first part of the air defense system, including Soviet-made shoulder-to-surface missiles, express Jordan's insistence on placing its national interests above all other considerations and giving first priority to the armament of our Armed Forces, as well as equipping and training them for their pan-Arab role, regardless of obstacles and pressures and despite financial limitations and the size of the commitments that this national and pan-Arab priority entails.

By a quick look at the state budget, an ordinary individual can realize the extent of the military burden and pan-Arab responsibility Jordan shoulders in defense of its nation, and the need to support our Armed Forces in the face of the Zionist danger that is crawling toward the Arab region.

Over the past years, Jordan has allocated Arab aid funds to bolster our Armed Forces in accordance with an Arab commitment that Arab summit conferences had approved. The noticeable retraction to fulfill a great many of these commitments has forced Jordan to borrow money in order to complete supplying its Armed Forces with the most sophisticated weapons in order to bring them to the level of facing the danger on the longest Arab confrontation line.

By establishing relations of trust and cooperation with the Soviet Union, Jordan has been able to overcome the biased conditions the United States has set in order to supply Jordan with weapons.

Therefore, we appreciate the Soviet Union's stand which stems from a sincere friendship toward Arabs and from a continuous adherence to Arab rights.

But the drop in Arab financial support and the retraction in fulfilling summit commitments have not only affected the building of military power, but also have negatively affected the process of supporting the steadfastness of people in the occupied homeland. The Jordanian-Palestinian committee is holding meetings in Amman under difficult financial circumstances, due to the Arab retraction in fulfilling Arab-approved commitments intended to support the steadfastness of people in the occupied homeland.

Armament programs and programs for supporting Arab citizens in the occupied territories, and the provision of economic plans to confront Israel's policies of deportation and expansion, are programs for which financial assistance has been approved at the highest Arab level. This assistance is a pan-Arab tax to which we greatly contribute and shoulder its burdens, regardless of the difficulties and circumstances.

Pan-Arab action and its commitments must be based on fixed factors that do not change with tactical relations among the Arab countries and would be unaffected by accidental circumstances. This is so because the confrontation of the Zionist danger should be a fixed strategy in the Arab action and a dimension that will not be affected by unrest in the Arab situation and the small battles that are waged in the Arab arena.

Urquhart To Visit; Try To End Deadlock

NC091323 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT
9 Jan 85

[Text] UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has telephoned President Amin al-Jumayyil. They held consultations on activating the international legitimacy represented by the United Nations to speed up the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon.

President al-Jumayyil and Secretary General Perez de Cuellar have agreed that UN Assistant Secretary General Brian Urquhart be sent to Beirut this weekend to end the deadlock in the Al-Naqurah discussions and prevent their collapse, particularly as the main obstacle is represented in Israel's insistence on having the major part of the south come under UNIFIL control, whereas Lebanon adheres to its right to deploy the Lebanese Army on Lebanese territory in consultation and cooperation with the United Nations.

Internal Security Forces Deploy in Iqlim al-Kharrub

NC081433 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Two internal security forces units deployed in Iqlim al-Kharrub this afternoon. They were deployed in the main command headquarters in the 'Anut area, in a center at the Al-Burjayn school, in a center in B'asir-Harat B'asir, in the Barja police station, in a center between Al-Mughariyah and Majdaluna, and in the Shhim police station. They also established permanent patrols between Darayya and 'Ayn al-Hawr, between Bsaba and Al-Mtullah, and between Al-Mtullah and Hasrut, and reinforced the Mazra'at Al-Dahr police station.

An internal security force has just arrived in Al-Damur. The force was accompanied by bulldozers, which have begun to remove the earth barrier on the main highway there.

Second Phase Deployment Reported

NC091046 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT
9 Jan 85

[Text] The second phase of the Internal Security Forces' deployment in Iqlim al-Kharrub began this morning following yesterday's deployment of 200 officers and men along the coastal highway.

Before the implementation of the second part of the plan, the Joint Liaison Committee met under the chairmanship of Staff Brigadier General Jean Nasif at 0730 this morning. All members and representatives in the committee, except the Lebanese Forces representative Dr Jean Ghanim, then went to Iqlim al-Kharrub.

A security source said that the security forces deployment will be effected at specified points from Al-Damur to Al-Jiyah power plant and 'Anut, and from Al-Dubbiyah to Al-Burjayn.

Walid Junblatt on Coastal Plan, Alliances

NC081856 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 1730 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Walid Junblatt, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP], held a 2-hour meeting at 1700 today with the PSP political and military leaders in Beirut, at which he announced that the PSP no longer has any roadblocks on the coastal road.

He said: We have opened the coastal road and no longer have any roadblocks there, but we are warning everyone [word indistinct] and reminding them of their responsibilities, because if a Phalangist presence in the Al-Kharrub region continues, as expected, the coastal road will not be safe for patriots, not even for (?civilians).

The PSP leader added: We want the road to the south to be open to everyone, particularly for the Lebanese national resistance, because Israel intends to remain in the south and to rule it through Lahd, the Phalangists, and the rest of its agents. The rifles are silent in Beirut, but they will always be heard in the south.

Emphasizing the existing alliance with the Amal movement, Walid Junblatt said: We and the Amal movement stand in the same trench; we all belong to the deprived classes.

Commenting on relations with the Al-Murabitun, Junblatt said: We are offering our hand to all patriotic leaders to achieve a common goal — liberation, and resistance of the Phalangists. Events of the past were merely a passing cloud. If Comrade Abu Shakir wants to come back, he will be welcome.

Asked about the Democratic National Front, Junblatt said: We and the parties of the front are in the same trench, particularly on the mountain. We have a unified military command. We will develop this front, which is a continuation of the Lebanese National Movement created by Kamal Junblatt.

Calls for Overthrowing Regime

NC090826 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic
0745 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] Minister Walid Junblatt has said that the Progressive Socialist Party and Amal movement entertain a common objective with regard to the southern suburb, Beirut, the mountain, the south, and the north. He added: Our ranks should be united to overthrow the regime.

He asserted his determination and that of Amal to open ports in national areas. Junblatt admitted that his forces are playing a modest role in the operations against the Israeli troops in the south.

On the coastal line plan, Junblatt said: We will make little concessions.

However, he added: We will never cede al-Damur and Al-Na'imah.

Phalangists Accused of Explosions in Tripoli

NC081504 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic
to Lebanon 1400 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Commenting on explosions that took place at dawn today in Tripoli that were targeted at certain religious centers, Shaykh Sa'id Sha'ban [leader of the Islamic Unification Movement] accused the Phalangists and their allies, who are still insisting on disrupting life everywhere in Lebanon, of the actions. He said: We stress to the Phalangists and their agents that these crimes will destroy their state and will put an end to their

partitionist plan, which they initiated by isolating themselves within their insular canton. Crime runs in their blood.

Shaykh Sha'ban added: On Sunday, travellers between Tripoli and Beirut were attacked. Women were ordered out of vehicles. The Phalange Party, whose national unity government is led by a faithful son of Tripoli, thus epitomizes criminality; the head of state is a partner in this fascist party and a false witness at this critical stage.

Ba'th Congress Discusses Political Report

*JN081545 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Text] Damascus — The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's eighth regional congress resumed its meetings at 1000 today.

After the chairman of the congress read solidarity cables from fraternal and friendly parties and liberation movements, the comrades continued discussing the political report presented to the congress.

Congress Approves Political Report

*JN081839 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Text] Damascus — The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's eighth regional congress resumed its meetings at 1800 today. The congress began discussion of the economic report. The congress endorsed the political report this morning.

U.S. Seen Aiding Israeli Intransigence in Lebanon

*JN081404 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen, Israel has refused to pledge to withdraw its forces from the south, to recognize Lebanon's right to sovereignty over its territory, and to abide by international decisions through its refusal to enable UNIFIL to assume the role defined by the UN Security Council and to which the United States agreed. At the same time, this Israeli rejection is accompanied by U.S. rejection of any solution that gives Lebanon its right of sovereignty and supports its national independence so long as Israel does not achieve political gains on the ground as a reward for its aggression.

If this is the stand of the U.S. and Israeli allies on the situation in southern Lebanon, how can the Arabs be confident that the United States, through its plans, can return to the Arabs their usurped lands in the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan Heights? How can the Arabs be confident that Israel, which is procrastinating in order to entrench its occupation of the south, will recognize the Palestinian people's rights to their territories while all Zionist parties consider Palestinian territory liberated Israeli territory?

When Israel, which rejects all these Arab rights, refuses to withdraw from Lebanon, it is in fact responding to the rulers who placed their confidence in Zionism and the United States and who began their moves in the sea of U.S. darkness in order to hurl all Arab rights into this sea. If Israel considers its settlement policy a strategy and the aggression against the Arabs and their lands one of the prominent principles of this strategy, what will Israel give 'Arafat through the Jordanian king, who considers himself one of the main U.S. servants in the Arab region?

Because the United States is the supporter of Israel and U.S. money finances the settlements and settlers, we do not believe that the Arabs, except subservient and conspiratorial Arabs, are confident that the United States can be a supporter of Arab rights or a peaceful mediator while it is the main party to aggression against the Arabs and their lands.

In light of these facts of U.S.-Israeli joint policy, the Syrian stand remains the one to which the Arab nation must adhere. The path to Arab rights remains the one shown by the Lebanese nationalist resistance in blood and sacrifices. Israel is lying when it claims that it can dictate its conditions while its soldiers are facing their ordained fate in the southern territory and while the families of those soldiers are demonstrating in front of the Zionist war ministry calling for withdrawing their sons in order to save their lives.

Syria is confident that U.S. agents in the capitals of Arab darkness will not be deterred by their conscience or by the continued U.S. tricks because they helped make those tricks and deceptions.

Syria is also confident that the time wasted by those U.S. agents in the interest of Israel will be utilized by the Arab masses to take revenge on their enemies and those of their cause.

Syria's understanding of the nature of events and plans makes it confident in itself and in the future. The political program defined by leader Al-Asad in his speech at the eighth regional congress of the party reiterates that Syria, which abides by firm pan-Arab ideology, is the only one that defines what is required in the Arab arena and formulates the Arab decision. Syria alone relied on the role of the masses and it still considers this role stronger than U.S. plans and reactionary solidarity.

Just as the southerners placed the enemy soldiers before two options — death or withdrawal — our Arab people are capable of besieging Israel. Our nation will achieve liberation and victory.

Knesset Committee Discusses Ethiopian Affair

TA081015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] The Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee held a closed meeting this morning about the affair of the publicity over the Ethiopian Jews' immigration, but representatives from the prime minister's office were absent on instructions from Shim'on Peres. Last night the prime minister asked for the meeting not to be held, but after the chairperson, Knesset Member [MK] Miryam Glazer-Taasa, insisted that it be held, he decided that representatives of his office would not attend. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Foreign Ministry, the Ministry of Immigration and Absorption, the military censorship, and Jewish Agency representatives Hayim Aharon and Yehuda Dominitz. The committee chairperson has said that the absence of Peres' representatives at the meeting contradicts Knesset codes and that she is now asking the Knesset speaker to intervene.

Peres Addresses Knesset on Ethiopian Jews

TA081559 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1405 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Statement by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to the Knesset on the evacuation of Ethiopian Jews --- live]

[Text] Mr Speaker, honorable Knesset; this house and the whole nation are now faced with one major problem — how to continue this impressive, exceptional rescue operation and bring it to a successful conclusion. Despite difficulties and obstacles, we have not lost hope. Our sisters and brothers have waited 2,600 years in a distant country beyond the River Cush [Biblical name] to see this day and this place. They waited and we waited. They have now arrived, and this is a victory for us. This wonderful tribe has proudly and persistently kept the flame of the Jewish faith burning since the days of our leader Moses and certainly since the days of the oppressive Roman rule. No mountain and no sword, no decree and no foreign country, could crush their devotion to Judaism, their sense of humanity, and their Zionist hope. We here have harbored the hope of uniting our people, a hope which is neverending. There is no economic problem, domestic distress, geographical distance, or political obstacle that could stop or postpone the efforts to rescue our people and immigration, which are enveloped with ancient glory and mysterious courage. We saw them kneel to kiss the soil of our land. Their eyes were shining, and tears appeared in our eyes. We saw a son carrying his father on his shoulders. We saw a mother tying her baby on her back.

We stood there, moved, as many in the world were moved by this historic scene. This is an hour of pride for the Jewish people, and an hour of joy for the State of Israel. The Israeli Government has done, and will continue to do, all that it can and more to conclude this very Jewish and very humane operation, until the very last Ethiopian Jew reaches his homeland. In all modesty and humility, we can say that this is one of the most daring and impressive rescue campaigns of the Jewish people which Israel, and not only Israel, has ever known. The Arab peoples have sufficient means and territory to rescue thousands of refugees. As the Israeli

president has stressed, with the income from the production of oil for 1 day they could rescue hundreds of thousands of people. However, they are furiously attacking a praiseworthy campaign instead. They are accusing countries that do not shoulder any responsibility for this campaign. It was this ugly anger, this angry suspiciousness that compelled us to keep this glorious act a secret. Publicity, except for that not under the control of the Israeli Government, was coordinated to enable the continuation of the rescue and absorption process. Although it is possible to specify all reasons, I can say that both restraint and publication were intended to serve the same purpose. On Thursday morning [3 January] I was informed that the affair, with all its details, had already been publicized worldwide. And thus, to focus the attention on what is necessary, to divert it from delicate emphases, and to put things in their proper perspective, I gave my approval, after consulting with the relevant authorities, to a news conference and, in accordance therewith, issue the announcement by the Cabinet secretary.

We must now show restraint, establish the necessary secrecy, and maintain the national trust necessary to make possible the conclusion of this sacred mission. Now, more than ever, we are required to dedicate ourselves to a serious and honorable process of absorption, to prove an ancient truth in our lives, that even in maintaining distinctions among various ethnic groups, even when we have differences among ourselves, we are members of the same people, linked to an ancient and wonderful faith, and no physical power nor external difference will separate us.

Honorable Knesset, all of us — the representatives of the Jewish people and the people elected by the State of Israel, rabbis and public servants, government and citizens, cities and development towns, kibbutzim and moshavim, the center of Israel and the development towns — it is incumbent on all of us to meet this challenge of bringing hearts together, of absorbing sisters and brothers arriving here from a distant land. We must do this while paying full respect to their walks of life and customs, to their unique heritage, and the depth of their feelings. We are one people — there are no black Jews nor white Jews. There are only Jews, tied to each other forever by history and faith.

In the 16th century, Egypt's chief rabbi, Rabbi David Ben-Shlomo Ben-Zimra, was asked about the halakic status of the Ethiopian Jews. He said that they are true Jews.

Rabbi 'Azriel Hildsheimer of Germany said in 1864: We all have a single Torah and a single father in Heaven, and all of the members of Israel guarantee each other.

He wrote the following to the Ethiopian Jews: Do not be afraid, my brethren; rest assured that never were miserable people who knocked on the door of a Jewish house turned away without receiving aid.

Eretz Yisra'el's chief rabbi, the late Rabbi Avraham Yitzhaq Hakohen Kook, appealed to world Jewry in 1921, calling on it to save 50,000 holy souls and to bring the little children to Jewish centers in Eretz Yisra'el.

Mr Speaker, Zionism is a key religious faith among the Jews in Ethiopia. It is this faith that motivated them to endanger their

lives to return to the homeland. All through their long years of existence they devoted little discussion to this issue. Instead they turned their eyes toward Israel and waited for a favorable hour. Their renowned leader, Zekharya Yona, fervently argued: We preferred to suffer rather than endanger the State of Israel.

These are noble words, said in intolerable conditions. However, it was not the danger but the absence of the proper time which prevented their return. The time has now come.

This is also an opportunity to pay tribute to Menahem Begin whose government invested efforts and showed great resourcefulness in making possible the initial secret filtering through of Jews to Israel. It is also the right place and time to announce, on behalf of the government which I am honored to head, that the enormous effort which has already begun will not stop. Immigration involves difficulties but difficulties will not put a stop to immigration, immigration being a major objective in our lives. This is true whether we are talking about countries in distress to rescue the lives of Jews there, or immigration from modern, well-to-do countries to save the Jewish existence. The State of Israel is the only true guarantee for the existence and survival of both Jews and Judaism. When the favorable hour strikes, let us not deal with trifles, let us not miss it; let us all unite behind the main and uniting goal and drop the ephemeral quarrels. Mr Speaker, immigration is continuing and will continue.

Speech Satisfies Tehiya, CRM

TA081732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] Tehiya and Citizens Rights Movement Knesset Members [MK's] expressed satisfaction with the prime minister's address to the Knesset. Speaking to our correspondent 'Oded Ben-'Ami, MK's Ge'ula Kohen and Yosi Sarid stressed that Peres has assumed responsibility for the publicizing of the evacuation of Ethiopian Jews and has thus set a personal example.

Delegation Will Not Attend 10 Jan Al-Naqurah

TA081947 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] The Israeli delegation will not arrive for the next round of Al-Naqurah talks with Lebanon, a round slated to take place this coming Thursday. Our military correspondent Moshe Shlonsky reports that a decision to this effect was made today. However, the Defense establishment does not view this as the end of the talks and another round of talks may take place next week.

Political moves are underway in Jerusalem to prepare for unilateral moves in Lebanon. Our military correspondent notes that there is understanding in the prime minister's office and in the defense establishment about the need to change the IDF's deployment in southern Lebanon, and it is now only necessary to convince the Likud ministers about this.

Our monitor Mikha'el Gurdus reports that Radio Free Lebanon has announced that the Lebanese Government has proposed that the Al-Naqurah talks be renewed, and that this proposal will be

passed on to Jerusalem tomorrow via France and the UNIFIL commander. Our Arab affairs correspondent Ehud Ya'ari reports that the Lebanese have hinted they will agree to a substantial [tze'fufa] deployment of UNIFIL in southern Lebanon if Israel undertakes to withdraw to the international border.

Peres Wants 'Temporary' Partial Withdrawal

TA090728 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
9 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by David Landau and Hirsh Goodman]

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Shim'on Peres is determined that any partial withdrawal in Lebanon be temporary in nature and appearance. The prime minister, it is understood, regards this as a fundamental issue of policy, and would rather bring down the unity government than succumb to Likud pressure to invest a new IDF line in Lebanon with the attributes of semi-permanence.

The ten-man "inner cabinet" is expected to address itself this morning for the first time, to the options for unilateral withdrawal in Lebanon — given the apparent failure of talks between Israel and Lebanon at Al-Naqurah.

Pressure is growing in the defence establishment — the ministry and the IDF — for a redeployment of Israeli forces to a line "significantly south" of the IDF's current line of deployment along the Al-Awwali River.

Peres and Rabin are said to be busy trying to convince two key Likud ministers — Finance Minister Yitzhaq Moda'i and Housing Minister David Levi — to support an IDF redeployment in the very near future. Their support would ensure a majority in the Cabinet for such a move.

HA'ARETZ: 'Catchwords' Hide Lies About IDF Pullout

TA081608 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 8 Jan 85 p 9

[Commentary by Yo'el Marcus: "In the Grip of Commonly-Accepted Lies"]

[Text] "I am in favor of an IDF pullout to the international border and all the risks this entails." These remarks by Shim'on Peres in an interview with HA'ARETZ about 1 month ago ran like an electric shock through the IDF's spine; these were unambiguous and courageous words; they differed from anything else said in the past; they proved that the prime minister was very strongly taking the reins. However, the rejoicing was premature. It did not take long — several talks between Peres and Rabin, and Shamir and Peres, and various interpellations by Sharon, Arens, and Levi — before it emerged that this determination was accompanied by several "buts" — yes to a withdrawal, but within 6 to 9 months; yes to a withdrawal, but in phases; yes to a withdrawal, but only after security arrangements have been guaranteed; yes to a withdrawal, but not before the talks have been exhausted; yes to a withdrawal, but not before peace has been safeguarded for the Galilee; yes to a withdrawal, but how do we explain a pullout to the international border to the parents of the 604 soldiers who were killed in Lebanon? Well, it turned

out that in Israel the road to hell is not quite paved with good intentions but rather with commonly-accepted lies. Consequently, one could say that never have so many supporters of a withdrawal done so much to prevent it.

These lies hide behind a series of catchwords which have gripped our politicians. The time has now come to expose, shatter, and be rid of them once and for all. Take, for example, the term "security arrangements" which is used as a pretext for our prolonged stay in Lebanon. Yitzhaq Shamir, one of his confidants explains, is actually not *a priori* against a withdrawal. However, as far as he is concerned, a sacred prerequisite is that the appropriate security arrangements should be concluded first, that somebody should "prove to him that the security arrangements have been safeguarded." Listening to such words, the only conclusion is that the complete withdrawal of our soldiers is totally unfeasible according to Shamir. What is the meaning of "proving to him?" Who can prove that which cannot be proved even if 1,000 documents corroborate it? Assuming that such a question were posed to the chief of staff at a Cabinet session, could he provide an unambiguous answer which would satisfy Shamir? The bitter truth is that we do not have the security arrangements to protect even the IDF soldiers in Lebanon from daily attacks against them. There cannot be any hermetic security arrangements, using either UNIFIL or the army of southern Lebanon [ASL]. The only "security arrangement" lies in our strength and a definition of the things we will not allow to recur in Lebanon. A country that cannot guarantee its security from within its own territory is in very big trouble.

The catchwords "safeguarding the peace of the Galilee," first and foremost give rise to such questions as: How are the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona any different from those of Jerusalem who have for years been exposed to more serious attacks than any ever suffered by the former (except for the fact that they did not flee Jerusalem)? And why are the lives of the soldiers in Lebanon, many of them civilians doing their reserves duty, any better than the lives of the inhabitants of Qiryat Shemona? Now that the threat of a massive artillery attack on the northern settlements has been removed, are the inhabitants of the Galilee more exposed to attacks than the rest of the country?

To a large extent, these are rhetorical questions since there are grounds for suspecting that the fears are not really of a military nature but rather stem from internal political considerations and from the "Katyusha rocket syndrome" afflicting our politicians. The Labor Party leaders are afraid of what the Likud might say after the first Katyusha falls, while at the top echelon of the Likud, Shamir and Levi fear what Sharon might say — and how he might use it in his contest for the leadership — if he can use the argument that it was Shamir and Levi who brought back the Katyushas. It is hard to understand how a country like this which stood up to seven Arab armies in the Independence War, which stood up to vast quantities of sophisticated Soviet weapons, which must stand up to Syria (which by itself has more weapons today than all the Arab countries put together at any given time in the past) can commit all its resources and energies to defend itself from one single Katyusha rocket. This is really unbelievable!

"Exhausting the dialogue" are actually the catchwords that

conceal the biggest commonly-accepted lie of them all. First, they said, we should establish a dialogue with the Christians, then with the Shi'ites, and later with the Syrians. And so, months and years have gone by. Although this dialogue has had more failures than there are stations on a milk train route, there are still those who adhere to the slogan that the dialogue must be exhausted.

This is how the catchwords "**phased withdrawal**" — apparently based on the hope that after the first phase of the withdrawal, the incumbent parties in Lebanon will be so scared that they will want to enter a dialogue at once — were engendered. The chance of such a thing happening is even less than the danger that all hell might break loose in the area evacuated by the IDF which would provide us with a new excuse not to implement the remaining two stages of the withdrawal.

These catchwords surprisingly resemble their next of kin "**the withdrawal will be carried out within 6 to 9 months from the day a decision is made.**" The official logic behind this cliché is that it will require up to 9 months to evacuate all the equipment from Lebanon. However, since it is hard to believe that the IDF cannot evacuate all of its equipment within several weeks (high mobility is one of its advantages, remember?), it would appear that these catchwords conceal the wish to stall for time, or to be more precise, to put off the moment of truth of making a decision.

The truth is that there is nothing to exhaust in a dialogue, because no one wants to talk to us. And, even if we had someone to talk to, no agreement would be worth the paper it was printed on. The only country with which there would be any sense at all in reaching an agreement — Syria — does not want to, and justifiably so. It has learned from past experience that it cannot vouch for the Lebanese. Even if it wanted to, it would not soil its hands with an agreement with Israel. There is nothing to exhaust in a dialogue, there is no one to exhaust it with (see the Al-Naqrurah talks yesterday) and every passing day only exacerbates the danger posed to our soldiers in Lebanon and adversely affects Israel's security in the long run.

Undoubtedly, the most demagogic catchwords are the argument — "**How do we tell the bereaved parents that their sons died in vain?**" Those who, pretending innocence, ask this question deserve only one answer: Must another 600 soldiers get killed in Lebanon to justify the victims of the last 2 and 1/2 years? However, as noted, these are also catchwords. They talk about the victims of the past and the bereaved families, but what they are really worried about is that a unilateral withdrawal to the international border might be an admission and confirmation that the Lebanese war was merely a grave adventure, that none of its grandiose objectives were achieved and none of them had a chance of being attained.

Therefore, regardless of how much Mr Peres wants a unilateral withdrawal to the international border there is not, and there will not be, a majority in the government to bring the boys back home as long as a good (and not so good) many people do not come out from under the spell of the commonly-accepted lies. Such a change will not come about, as long as the Labor Party does not insist on fulfilling its commitment to get out of Lebanon even at the cost of provoking a government crisis. Let it learn from SHAS how to get things done.

Editorials View Future Moves in Lebanon

*TA090825 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT
9 Jan 85*

[From the review of morning press editorials]

[Text] *HA'ARETZ* says there is no choice but to give up on a continuation of the Al-Naqurah talks, which have evidently proven futile. The Israeli Government should set out to protect its northern border areas while pulling the IDF back to the international border and entrusting the maintenance of a front-line security zone in southern Lebanon to the army of southern Lebanon, which could rely on the IDF when necessary. We should not pin any hopes on new ideas which may be raised by the UN assistant secretary general during his visit next week. There is also no reason to believe that during his upcoming trip to Washington, the defense minister will succeed in persuading the U.S. leadership to undertake a mediation effort — to exert tangible pressure on Syria. The argument that all the possibilities of the negotiations have not yet been exhausted is not based on any realistic assessment of the situation, but is being used to rationalize the non-termination of the Al-Naqurah talks and the waiting for Mr Brian Urquhart, and reflects the dread the Alignment leaders feel about a poignant argument with the Likud leaders. The paper adds that the Alignment agreed to form a government with the Likud on the assumption that this would not prevent it from putting an end to our Lebanese entanglement. If the Likud now reneges on this mutual agreement and makes the withdrawal conditional on unattainable terms, one of the most central foundations on which the national unity government is based will have been undermined.

HATZOFÉ writes that the fact that the Israeli delegation will not go to Al-Naqurah tomorrow does not mean that the lid has been put on the talks with Lebanon to determine the security arrangements which would enable the IDF's withdrawal. However, in view of the evasive attitude of the Lebanese delegation, there is no sense in resuming the talks as long as the Israeli Government has not consolidated its position regarding the prolonged stalemate and its consequences. We should continue to exhaust the political negotiations with the intervention of the United Nations and the United States. However, in the next few days the government will be called upon to decide on the moves Israel will have to make, if it emerges that an agreement with Lebanon on the security arrangements is absolutely unattainable.

THE JERUSALEM POST says that if Israel does not make good its pre-Christmas threat to start a unilateral withdrawal from the Al-Awwali, it will be contributing to Lebanese obduracy and will be doing nothing to reduce Shi'ite hostility and IDF casualties. A partial withdrawal to the Al-Zahrani or Al-Litani Rivers, if protracted, could only result in an escalation of that hostility by splitting the Shi'ite community. Unless Israel is prepared to try and emulate Soviet methods in Afghanistan, it is left with the choice of a pullback to the international border, relying on informal agreements with the local population in southern Lebanon and on the IDF's overwhelming power.

'AL-HAMISHMAR writes that, at best, the government may decide to effect a phased withdrawal or, in other words, to reduce

the area under IDF control. This is not the decision being awaited by the Israeli people, who have tired of the Lebanese war. After all, once the first phase is completed, we will remain in Lebanon for a long time, perhaps even years, and will continue to suffer all the disadvantages of a prolonged occupation. If the prime minister, the defense minister, and other Labor Party ministers cannot fulfill their promise to the voters about a withdrawal from Lebanon, there are no longer any grounds for what they regard as the minimal justification for the existence of a national unity government. To perpetuate the occupation in Lebanon, a Likud Government is good enough or even the best. After all, it was such a government that launched this adventure.

UN Role in Lebanon Talks, Tabah Talks Discussed

*TA081457 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Interview with political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer by anchorman Avner Tavori in the studio]

[Text][Schiffer] This morning a consultation was held in Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office, at which the Lebanese delegation's responses given during yesterday's talks were analyzed. The clear and categorical conclusion reached was that there is no longer any point in continuing the talks as they have been conducted in Al-Naqurah recently, because the Lebanese delegation has not given unambiguous and direct answers to the questions by the Israeli delegation. Perhaps the main question asked by the Israeli delegation is whether Lebanon will agree to the deployment of a UNIFIL force north of the Al-Awwali, and no clear answer has been given to that question. Tomorrow the prime minister is to convene the inner Cabinet for a debate on Israel's moves in Lebanon. Tomorrow senior defense officials will present the ministers with the various possibilities for an IDF redeployment and an IDF withdrawal from Lebanon. Defense people say that these talks will take several days and, until they are finished, there is no point in the Israeli delegation attending those talks. So, despite the fact that no decision was made one way or the other on holding the talks next Thursday, it is now clear that the Israeli delegation will not attend the talks for the next few days, until the Israeli Government decides its position regarding further moves in Lebanon.

[Avner Tavori] And what about the continuation of these contacts, what can we expect?

[Schiffer] It seems we would not be wrong in saying that the center of gravity for political activity within the next few days will move to the UN. Recently we witnessed feverish U.S. activity — Richard Murphy was here and traveled between the capitals, between Damascus, Beirut, and Jerusalem — then within the next few days we will witness stepped-up UN activity. Assistant UN Secretary General Jean-Claude Aime is here and, at the beginning of the week, the veteran diplomat, Assistant UN Secretary General Brian Urquhart, will arrive. He will deal with all the contacts between Israel and Lebanon, and we would certainly not be wrong in believing that the UN moves have a very good chance of succeeding. The Lebanese, both at the Al-Naqurah talks and in other frameworks, claim: Look, you cannot dictate to us where the United Nations will deploy.

Another thing, both from the Syrian and the Lebanese viewpoints, is that if the talks are held directly with the United Nations, without any connection with Israel, then there certainly is a good chance that the United Nations will be able to deploy almost everywhere.

It became clear to Israel, from reports it has received, that the Soviet Union is pressuring Syria to not let the United States have any success in this area. Security arrangements, as presented by the Americans, would be a kind of compensation, a kind of prize for the Americans. The United Nations, however, is an organization acceptable to both Damascus and Beirut, and it will be able to conduct talks here, and in the end a distinction will be made between the two matters — the UN deployment and how the IDF will redeploy in southern Lebanon. This is the process we will be witnessing in the next few days.

[Tavor] Now, Shim'on, perhaps we can go on to the Tabah matter which, superficially at least, appears to be more encouraging than the story of the talks in Al-Naqurah. Is there any significance in the fact that the level of the talks will apparently be political, Foreign Ministry staff, and not at a military level?

[Schiffer] Indeed, the closer we get to the date of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's departure for talks on aid in the United States, the more of a thaw in relations between Israel and Egypt we will see, because the war over the U.S. pocket, it seems, is also being fought via Jerusalem.

Talks will begin a week from today, for 3 consecutive days, in Beersheba between the Israeli and Egyptian delegations; the Americans are also sending observers to the talks, from the Legal Department of the U.S. State Department.

As for the talks...the issue is not important, but the framework is important. The talks will deal with a very simple issue — agreeing on an interim arrangement for Tabah. They will discuss who will be able to enter that miserable kilometer, who will be responsible or share responsibility for security. Israel is inclined to accept a symbolic unit of the Sinai MFO in the area which would help to safeguard the area, but Israel is not prepared for the MFO to police daily life in the area, and that is the big argument.

Of course it is significant that Egypt is now prepared to raise the level of the talks. According to the original plan, the two military committees were supposed to meet over this issue. There are permanent military committees that deal with problems that arise in the border relations between the two countries. However, it was decided apparently that the talks will be political and senior officials from the Foreign Ministries in Cairo and Jerusalem will head the talks.

These talks are important only because of the fact that here, for the first time, something is going to happen in Israeli-Egyptian relations; following a long period during which nothing actually happened there is a beginning of a dialogue again. While searching for interim arrangements, there may be talks about other things behind the scenes. Let us hope that something comes out of this.

Jerusalem To Raise Relations Issues in Tabah Talks

TA081734 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The negotiations between Israel and Egypt on the stationing of the MFO in Tabah will resume next week. The level of talks may be raised and the delegations may be headed by Foreign Ministry officials from both countries, instead of the heads of the Joint Military Council, as previously planned. Our political correspondent reports that Jerusalem has also decided to raise other subjects relating to bilateral relations, such as the normalization issue. Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports:

[Begin recording] Prime Minister Peres yesterday said that we should not expect immediate results from the talks in Beersheba, but it definitely means a renewal of the dialogue between the two countries. The official subject of the talks is of secondary importance — the task the MFO can fill in the Tabah area. It has been agreed between the two countries that only a small unit of this force should enter the disputed area for an interim period. Egypt says that the soldiers should assume police responsibilities. Israel believes that they should handle only general security affairs in the area. Along these same lines, Egypt says the MFO should carry out patrols. Israel claims that it should only act as an observer. Many letters have been exchanged on these disputed matters, and now, after long preliminary negotiations, the negotiations themselves will start in Beersheba. The final date has not yet been set, but they will probably take place the middle of next week. The talks may be held by civilians led by Foreign Ministry officials and not Army officers, as was previously intended.

In talks recently held in the Foreign Ministry, it was decided that Israel would raise additional issues related to bilateral relations that do not appear on the agenda. The purpose of this is to thaw somewhat the ties between Israel and Egypt. [end recording]

Shultz Asked To Discuss Soviet Jewry With Gromyko

TA081148 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir has asked George Shultz to raise the plight of Soviet Jewry in his talks with Andrey Gromyko in Geneva, and has sent him a message on this issue. Yitzhaq Shamir disclosed this request in a meeting with U.S. congressmen.

Canadian Parliamentary Delegation Arrives for Visit

TA081735 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1645 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Ben-Gurion Airport, 8 Jan (ITIM) — A Canadian parliamentary delegation arrived in Israel today for a 1-week visit. The delegation is led by William (Etwal), a member of the Progressive Conservative Party and the head of the Israel-Canada Friendship Committee. The group plans to meet with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir as well as other ministers and tour Israel. The delegation is the guest of Deputy Foreign Minister Roni Milo who serves as chairman of the Israel-Canada Friendship Committee of the Knesset.

Shahal Concludes Oil Purchase Contract in Mexico*TA081917 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1850 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Jerusalem, 8 Jan (ITIM) — Minister of Energy and Infrastructure Moshe Shahal held several meetings with Mexican officials today while visiting that country on a state mission.

Minister Shaal met with the ministers of commerce and industrial development; of energy, mines, and parastatal industry; agriculture and water resources; and with the Mexican deputy foreign minister. He conferred with them on the balance of trade between Israel and Mexico. The energy minister called on the Mexican Government to increase trade with Israel. On 9 January he will have further meetings to conclude the issue.

As is known, Israel buys 40 percent of its oil consumption from Mexico, and in this context Minister Shahal will meet with the director general of the Mexican national oil company. At that time, he will ask that Israel be given preferred status when signing the new oil procurement contract with Mexico next week.

Meir Kahane Confronts Egyptian Consul in Elat*TA090944 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 9 Jan 85 p 1*

[Report by Etyan Rabin]

[Text] "You do not have the power to get me out of here." This is what the Egyptian Consul in Elat Hasan 'Isa said to Rabbi Meir Kahane yesterday, after meeting him by chance in the town center. Despite police attempts to prevent a meeting between the two, and despite the many roadblocks set up by policemen on the road to the Egyptian consul's home, Rabbi Kahane confronted the Egyptian consul yesterday in one of the town's tourist centers.

One of Kahane's activists told the rabbi: "Look, that is the Egyptian consul," and Kahane approached the consul, who was sitting in a cafe. The conversation went as follows — Kahane: "It is a pity that I did not succeed in reaching the consulate. If I had, you would have had to fly to Cairo, not to Tel Aviv."

The consul replied: "You do not have the power to get me out of here."

To this, Kahane replied: "That remains to be seen."

The policemen stood frozen around the pair. A police officer said after the meeting that "the police tried to prevent Kahane's demonstration at the consul's house, but the hand of God made them meet in town."

Yesterday Rabbi Kahane arrived for a visit to Elat, accompanied by activists from his movement. He toured the Tabah area at 0900, escorted by policemen, Border Police, and the IDF. At noon, Kahane held a news conference in which he referred to Tabah, foreigners, the minorities coming to Elat.

Likud Promises To Vote for Law of Return Amendment*TA081625 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 8 Jan 85 p 2*

[Report by Knesset correspondents Yehoshu'a Bitzur, Yosef Tzuri'el, and Gabi Kessler]

[Excerpt] Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Justice Minister Moshe Nisim yesterday promised the religious parties' leaders that the Likud would honor its obligation to vote for the amendment to the law of return when the issue is raised in the Knesset. However, they said they would do so according to the procedure stipulated in the coalition agreement to first clarify the amount of support for the amendment and whether there is a chance of it winning a majority vote.

Present at the meeting with Shamir and Nisim were representatives of the National Religious Party, SHAS, Morasha, and Agudat Yisra'el. Yitzhaq Shamir told them he was astounded to read in the press about a secret agreement between the Likud and the Alignment to block the passing of an amendment to the law of return in the Knesset. Shamir emphasized: "No such thing ever existed. We willingly assumed an obligation on this issue in the coalition agreement. The Likud will not deviate from what was agreed, and a majority of it will vote in favor of the law. However, we have to follow the steps outlined in the agreement."

Shamir Meets Dismissed Arab Affairs Adviser*TA081852 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Binyamin Gur-Arye, the prime minister's adviser on Arab affairs, conferred with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening, in a last-minute effort to prevent his dismissal. However, it is said in the prime minister's office that Binyamin Gur-Arye will cease to be the adviser at the end of the week. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

[Begin recording] Binyamin Gur-Arye met with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir this evening to obtain the Likud's support against his dismissal. Gur-Arye repeated that his dismissal by Minister Weizman is for political reasons and that he is a civil servant with permanent status and should not be dismissed. The question is, of course, to what extent the vice prime minister and foreign minister will act to defend Gur-Arye who served as his adviser on Arab affairs in the past.

Arye Shomer, the assistant director general of the prime minister's office and Minister Weizman's aide, rejects the claim of politicization brought up by Gur-Arye. The handling of the office [of the adviser on Arab affairs] is on a national level, he said, and as for the dismissed adviser — everything will be done to maintain his status and rights according to regulations.

In any case, at the end of the week the new adviser, Dr Yosi Ginat, will take up his post. We said adviser, but this is only an interim stage since the reshuffle also heralds changes in the conception of the handling of the issue of Israeli Arabs. Avraham Tamir, the director general of the prime minister's office, has prepared a plan, the gist of which is to cancel the present format of the office of adviser. Instead of an adviser to the prime minister

on Arab affairs, an aide will be appointed for Minister Weizman, who is in charge of handling Israeli Arab affairs, and an Arab advisory council will be set up. The issues of long-term policy planning and implementation will be handled by a committee of directors general headed by Tamir. The tendency, so I have learned, is to place relations between Jews and Arabs in Israel on the basis of a solid social pact and to incorporate the Arabs into Israeli frameworks.

As reported, Gur-Arye complained to the vice prime minister about his dismissal and reported about the new trends in handling Israel's Arabs. Yitzhaq Shamir reacted saying: Minister 'Ezer Weizman cannot introduce arbitrary and overnight changes in the policy toward the Israeli Arabs without this matter first being discussed by the Cabinet.

From a personal point of view, Shamir soothed Gur-Arye, you cannot be touched. Minister Shamir is going to raise the entire issue of handling Israel's Arabs and the reshuffle in the coming Cabinet meeting. In the meantime though, Gur-Arye's appointment has been cancelled and the new adviser will take over at the end of the week. [end recording]

Letter of Appointment on Inquiry Commission Submitted
TA081143 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] The chairman of the Knesset Public Audit Committee submitted the letter of appointment to set up a commission of inquiry into the manipulative regulation of the bank shares to the president of the Supreme Court at noon. Committee Chairman David Liba'i told our correspondent Shlomo Raz that the commission is being asked to investigate the facts and reasons that led to the manipulative regulation of the bank shares and their crash in 1983. The commission is also being asked to take into account the report and recommendations drawn by the state comptroller. Liba'i emphasized that the letter of appointment of the commission of inquiry provides it with broad authority and that it will probe the manipulative regulation process of the shares from its inception.

Jordan Valley Settlers Say Development Stopped
TA082022 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1845 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Jerusalem, 8 Jan (ITIM) — Heads of regional councils, which include 21 agricultural settlements in the Jordan Valley, have protested that the government, the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department, and the other settlement organizations are not giving them money already allocated and said that this is delaying development.

"This is the beginning of the collapse," Yisra'el Nedivi, the head of the Jordan Valley Council; Moshe Shamir, the head of the Megilot Yam Hamelah Council; and Yisra'el Gil'ad, the head of the Ma'ale Efrayyim local council; said in a news conference held at Bet Agron in Jerusalem today.

According to them, the development of the Jordan Valley settlements has been stopped. They noted that this is a very vital region

on the eastern border of Eretz Yisra'el and any investment in it guarantees foreign exchange thanks to the agricultural export crops — vegetables, fruits, and flowers.

"In the current economic situation, the country could earn many dollars if we were given the necessary means," claimed the speakers who represent 900 families in the Jordan Valley settlements.

A committee set up by Prime Minister Menahem Begin 2 years ago prepared a master plan for the Jordan Valley, but its recommendations have not been officially accepted by any prime minister to date. The Jordan Valley farmers lack the means to produce and the infrastructure is inadequate.

The speakers noted that the budget allocated for the Jordan Valley region this year by the Jewish Agency's Settlement Department is only \$10 million. In addition, only about half of this money has been transferred to the settlements so far, 2 months before the end of the current fiscal year.

The settlers themselves worked out a minimum budget proposal of \$19 million to absorb 100 families per year in the various settlements, complete the means to produce agriculture, increase productivity and dollar income, and continue the development of the Jordan River bank.

They said that if the development work stops now, everything that has already been invested in the area will go down the drain.

The speakers also noted that the allocation of \$10 million for the Jordan Valley settlements constitutes 25 percent of the Settlement Department's budget, while 40 percent of that budget has been allocated for Judea and Samaria settlements, including non-agricultural ones.

During the last 3 years of the Likud government, they said, only 45 housing units were added to the Jordan Valley Settlements, while 1,400 apartments were added to the Samaria town of Ari'el.

The representatives of the Jordan Valley settlements complained that the number of families, 250, in Ma'ale Efrayyim, the only urban settlement in the Jordan Valley, has remained static for years now. They called on the settlement organizations to regulate the resources slated for settlement and to not give preference to the Judea and Samaria settlements over those in the Jordan Valley.

The speakers pointed to the fact that a reversed "green line" is now noticeable — the green area is located on the Arab-Jordanian side of the Jordan River, while the grey and arid area is on the Israeli side.

IDF Plans Road Circumventing Al-Duhayshah Camp
TA081532 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1337 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Bethlehem, 8 Jan (ITIM) — The IDF intends to pave a road circumventing the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, to divert traffic from the Jerusalem-Hebron road. The ITIM correspon-

dent reports that this road was planned following repeated harassment by the throwing of stones and explosives at Israeli vehicles traveling on the Jerusalem-Hebron road. People were hurt and damage was caused in these incidents.

Near the Al-Duhayshah refugee camp, Rabbi Moshe Levinger of Hebron continues his 2-month long vigil protesting the security policy in the territories.

The ITIM correspondent adds that the IDF has frozen the plan to pave a road circumventing Nablus because of a shortage of funds. The road is intended to divert from the center of town traffic from Jerusalem to the north. The plan to pave this road has been approved, and its building is delayed only due to lack of funds.

Increased Arms Smuggling Attempts Across Al-Awwali

TA090725 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
9 Jan 85 pp 1, 2

[Report by defense reporter Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Sidon — Terror organizations have stepped up their attempts to smuggle arms and explosives across the Al-Awwali River, and Israel Defense Forces officers commanding the area said they believed that this reflected the shortage of such material in the south.

The shortage, caused by the closure of the Al-Awwali line and strict supervision at the few crossing points and along the coast, has also led to a decline in the number of explosive devices set near the roadsides. But apparently there are enough bullets and rocket-propelled grenades in the terrorists' possession and there has been an increase in attacks using these weapons.

Various Palestinian and Lebanese organizations are involved in the attempts to smuggle the arms, and military sources here said that they believed these organizations enjoy at least passive Druze support. The sources said smugglers may set out from Sunni Moslem Villages, but the area is under overall Druze control and Druze man the roadblocks.

There is some limited cooperation among organizations attempting to send men across the river. In at least one instance known to the authorities here, the group of infiltrators included members of various organizations.

A well-placed source here said he was aware of some attempts to send squads across the river in the past few months. The squads are also getting bigger; in the past each attempt involved three to four men, but recent attempts have involved nine to 12 people.

One senior source said he expected the terrorists to face greater problems as the weather worsens and the river's fast flowing current becomes more difficult to ford.

Palestinian groups in the south are believed to be building up arsenals to protect themselves against an expected Lebanese assault once the IDF leaves the area. Military sources here said they believe the Palestinians want the IDF to remain here

because it protects them from the Lebanese. Some Shi'ite villages affiliated with the Amal militia also have arms for self-defence, and as long as that is how they are used, Israel does not interfere.

Prices Steady in Second Half of December

TA090704 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English
9 Jan 85 p 1

[Report by Aharon Sittner]

[Excerpt] There was virtually no rise in the prices of goods and services in the second half of December as compared with the first fortnight, but fruit and vegetable prices rose by 13.5 percent.

This was shown by the Central Bureau of Statistics' biweekly estimate of changes in the consumer price index. Fruit and vegetables prices are not included in the current three-month package deal prices and wages freeze.

Meanwhile, the Industry and Trade Ministry yesterday said that there is no sign of a shortage of merchandise in shops or warehouses. The ministry's deputy director general, David Brodet, who is in charge of the current price freeze, told reporters yesterday that there are daily consultations on the best ways of emerging from the current package deal early next month and — it is hoped — launching a new one.

Briefs

Exports Increase in 1984 — Exports increased by 13 percent in 1984 compared with 1983 and amounted to more than \$5.5 billion. Industrial exports increased by 16.5 percent, mostly because of the increase in the fields of metallurgy, machinery, and electronics. [Excerpts] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 7 Jan 85 TA]

Unemployment in December — The number of registered unemployed persons in December increased by 7.5 percent and was 20,785 compared with 19,331 in November. This was disclosed in data published by the Employment Service yesterday. [Summary] [Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 7 Jan 85 p 2 TA]

Immigration in 1984 — Reports from the Absorption Ministry show that a total of 18,766 people immigrated to Israel last year, in contrast to 16,417 immigrants in 1983. This represents a 13 percent increase in immigration. Of these, 7,354 Jews came to Israel in the airlift from Ethiopia. According to the data, except for the significant increase in the number of immigrants from Ethiopia, there was a drop in immigration from other countries last year. Only 345 people immigrated to Israel from the Soviet Union last year as opposed to 390 in 1983. [Summary] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 6 Jan 85 p 2 TA]

Portuguese-Speaking Summit To Be Held in February
AB081201 Paris AFP in French 0920 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, 8 Jan (AFP) — A summit meeting of the five Portuguese-speaking countries will be held in Sao Tome next February, it was learned on Monday from a diplomatic source in Lisbon on the occasion of the official visit to Portugal by Silvino da Luz, the Cape Verde minister of foreign affairs.

The summit, which will be attended by Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe, will notably make it possible to review the situation in Angola and Mozambique, the same source indicated.

Yesterday, Mr da Luz held talks with his Portuguese counterpart, Jaime Gama, on bilateral relations and on the situation in southern Africa, the same source indicated. The bilateral relations between the two countries constitute an "exemplary cooperation," especially in the field of culture and education, Mr da Luz and Mr Gama said. Mr da Luz's 2 day official visit to Lisbon comes in the wake of one paid to Cape Verde in November 1983 by the Portuguese foreign minister.

OAU Council of Ministers To Meet in February
AB042053 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Excerpts] The OAU Council of Ministers will hold a 9-day meeting in Addis Ababa from 25 February to draw up an agenda for a summit meeting of the organization later in the year. A spokesman for the OAU told newsmen in the Ethiopian capital that the summit will be devoted entirely to the economic situation on the continent. It will take place either in Algiers or in Addis Ababa.

The 43d session of the OAU Liberation Committee will also be held in Accra from the 30th of this month to the 2d of next month. This will be preceded by meetings of two standing committees. This was disclosed by the director for Africa and OAU Bureau of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, James Amissah. This will be second time Ghana will hold such a conference. The first was held in Accra in 1973. The secretary for foreign affairs, Dr Obed Asamoah, is the current chairman of the committee.

LIBYA

Sudanese Refugees 'Pouring' Into Jamahiriya

LD082348 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] Thousands of Sudanese citizens are pouring into areas inside the Jamahiriya from Sudan as they flee the hell of the political, economic, and social conditions in Sudan.

So far over 1,500 Sudanese citizens — men, women, and children — have arrived in these areas. They were in a state of confusion and were starving, thirsty, and exhausted by the long march across the sand dunes.

Other numbers of Sudanese are still arriving in these areas in successive convoys. The Sudanese citizens who survived the long journey of agony and the great suffering in Sudan have been given shelter in special camps where they were given immediate relief and clothing. A team of doctors and nurses of the Libyan Red Crescent treated the sick and provided medicines. Heating facilities were also provided and special care was given to children and women.

A number of Sudanese citizens talked bitterly about the tragic situation in Sudan in the light of the culminating ruinous crisis resulting from the foolish policies of the Numayri regime which harmed the Sudanese people and exposed them to countless difficulties.

A Sudanese sister said: We have been living in hell. We have lost everything. Another citizen said: The regime in Sudan bears the responsibility for the death of many of our sons. It has opened up our soil to foreigners and ignored their needs for survival. Hundreds are dying at the hand of the regime. No one asks why these people are dying. The situation in our country is very bad. The ruling regime is the cause of our wretchedness and misery.

A third citizen said: We have run away from the tragic situation in Sudan in order to seek protection and care among our brothers.

Famine is universal in all Sudanese areas and towns, including the capital, Khartoum. Information from Sudan says that the deficit from importing essential commodities caused the suspension of all public services, despite the fact that taxes have been increased three or four times.

The rampant inflation has also caused the value of the Sudanese pound to fall to its lowest point. The dollar is now equivalent to 3 and 1/2 Sudanese pounds; this has led to a reduction in workers' wages to 12 pounds and employees to 35 pounds.

Informed sources in Sudan say that all the trade unions are threatening to stage a general strike in Sudan as a result of the deteriorating economic conditions in the country. Peasants are also threatening to strike as a result of the Numayri regime's failure to provide them with their needs.

In the meantime, while famine is threatening the Arab people in Sudan, the Numayri regime has been cutting off the hands of starving citizens who have no daily ration of bread, even under the threat of implementing the law of the shari'a.

Moreover, the Sudanese streets are filled popular demonstrations denouncing the involvement of the Numayri regime in the operation of the emigration of Ethiopian Jews to occupied Palestine. Information coming from Khartoum said that the Sudanese Armed Forces are involved in the demonstrations. Intermittent clashes took place inside the Paratroops Corps in Khartoum following demonstrations in the Sudanese capital denouncing the Numayri regime and its subservience to Zionism and imperialism, and its oppressive acts against the Sudanese people.

The newspaper *AL-'ARAB* which is published in Arabic in London said that the clashes inside the Sudanese Paratroops Corps continued until a late hour yesterday afternoon. Also leaflets in the names of the free officers were distributed inside the various military units in Khartoum.

MOROCCO

King Hassan Interviewed on OAU, SDAR, Arab Unity

PM091031 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 7 Jan 85 p 6

[Part one of two-part interview with King Hassan II by 'Irfan Nizam al-Din in Marrakesh held at the "beginning of 1985"]

[Excerpts] Question: Your Majesty, our nation is going through a critical time and it is in need of a rational voice, a voice of justice, wisdom, and courage. I have many questions to ask and I would like to discuss several topics with you. First, the problem that makes the hearts of the Arabs bleed — namely, the Sahara problem which was recently the subject of diplomatic events in the OAU and the United Nations. We would like to hear Your Majesty's views on the matter and the prospects of the present situation.

Answer: I am very pleased to give this interview to *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* in view of its importance and the credibility it enjoys among its readers, be they politicians, professionals, or athletes. What is important is that a reader finds in *AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT* everything of interest to him. For this reason I am very pleased. Yours is a rational and credible paper.

The question of the Sahara is in fact a painful problem for the area because it has marred the atmosphere that existed before and because it has hindered our progress in this part of the Arab world; it has hindered the progress of the countries of the Arab Maghreb. But certainly the wisdom, reason, and farsightedness of the Arab Maghreb countries will help in rectifying the course and pursuing the correct path in a shorter time than expected, God willing. This will be in the interest of the African Continent, the Arab world, and the Islamic community in general.

With respect to what happened at the OAU or the United Nations, we do not find it catastrophic as far as these organizations are concerned. This is because the OAU has pursued an

illegal course and Morocco did not wish to follow this illegal action. In the message we addressed to the OAU we said to them that we cannot be partners in this crime, the crime of illegality. Acting in accordance with the dictates of our conscience, we decided to absent ourselves and to leave the organization. But at the same time we assured the Africans that we are in solidarity with them on the African, Arab, and Islamic levels and in all forums and organizations.

What happened at the OAU? It happened that Morocco left and the so-called republic [SDAR] replaced it physically. Previously it was physically present but not legally. There is no resolution, recommendation, or anything to indicate that it has been accepted as a full member. Therefore, as far as the OAU is concerned there was no catastrophe. Instead by leaving we have achieved two things: First, we have stated our freedom and commitments toward the African conference and, second, we have left while no new member replaced us, neither imaginary nor real. [sentence as published]

As for what happened at the United Nations, our opponents produced nothing new. They have only reproduced the resolution on which the United Nations voted in 1983.

Question: Your Majesty, will these developments affect your initiative to organize a referendum in the Sahara?

Answer: Definitely not. It could easily be said that so-and-so left the OAU in order to evade the responsibility of the referendum. I have officially confirmed in the message I addressed to the OAU summit and in my speeches and statements on the occasion of Morocco's withdrawal from the OAU the following points: First, that I do not wish my friends to show solidarity with my withdrawal, thus leaving them free to act in this regard and, second, I stressed to them that Morocco's withdrawal from the OAU is not a maneuver to evade responsibility. Rather, this withdrawal confirms that we are still committed to carrying out the referendum and to the referendum's result.

Question: Your Majesty, can it be said that there are new initiatives or views to end this problem?

Answer: So far there are no new views. When we reach a definite view we will announce it.

Question: But it has been reported that certain Arab and foreign quarters have recently mediated in the situation. How true is this and have they reached any results?

Answer: With regard to mediation efforts, there are in fact two types. There is the type that is internationally acceptable and conducted openly in accordance with the accepted methods of mediation. The other type is mediation based on emotions and which is tantamount to an invitation to curse the devil and to halt the conflict. We are still at the stage of advisory mediation and not the customary legal mediation.

Question: Your Majesty, there have been reports about military tension and a military buildup on the borders between Morocco and Algeria. How true are these reports?

Answer: As far as the Moroccan side is concerned I can assure you that I have not added one single man to the border force in the northern part of the Maghreb in the past 2 years. Yes, we are now extending the security wall in the Sahara and it is logical that there be military concentrations in order to protect those building the wall. With regard to the number of troops, we have not increased their number by one single soldier.

Question: Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali told me that contacts are currently taking place in order to hold meetings between the Maghreb states at a summit level. Are you in favor of such efforts?

Answer: True, Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi did make attempts, not in his capacity as Arab League secretary general, but as a Tunisian citizen and a citizen of the Arab Maghreb. The response by all the parties, I believe, was positive. I can only speak for myself. My response was unconditionally affirmative when he suggested holding a summit meeting. We are prepared to begin tomorrow, without preconditions, regarding the agenda. We are prepared to discuss all topics.

Question: Did Your Majesty receive any response?

Answer: During Mr Klibi's recent visit to Morocco he informed me that Tunisia and Algeria have approved. He was then about to contact Libya and Mauritania but I have not yet received an answer. There is no doubt that the response was positive.

Question: Your Majesty, do you believe that recent developments in Mauritania could lead to changes and have positive effects on the atmosphere in the area?

Answer: As you know, the relations between Morocco and Mauritania are frozen. There is no diplomatic representation between the two countries despite the fact that during President Haydala's regime, Morocco had asked three times for the restoration of normal diplomatic ties and three times the response was cold and negative. There was no justification or explanation for [rejecting] restoration and normalization of diplomatic ties. I regret seeing this happen in view of the historical and traditional ties between the two countries.

I have tried to ignore the existence of a state called Mauritania to the south of Morocco so that Morocco would not be accused of anything that might happen there. For this reason, Morocco has not moved following what happened in Mauritania. No official or unofficial statement was made and no comment issued from any authoritative source. We are waiting for Mauritania to take the first step toward Morocco so that it will not be said that we had a hand in the matter.

Question: Your Majesty, following the signing of Wajdah pact [with Libya] there has been talk about an axis policy in the area, particularly since the pact came following the fraternity and cooperation pact between Algeria, Tunisia, and Mauritania. What is your answer to such observations?

Answer: My primary and fundamental answer is as follows: Every agreement or pact that stems from a negative principle and has a negative objective is a failed agreement and has no future.

Therefore, the agreement under which the African Arab Federation was established is not against anybody nor at the expense of anybody. This is the positive aspect of the agreement. Why the African Arab Federation? For many reasons, the most important of which is as follows: Neighborliness has a significance in the life of individuals and in public life, as well as, geographically, in the life of states. A neighbor always has preference.

To explain this further I would say if you have a dispute with your neighbor, it does not mean that you should remain idle. This is the lesson that I sought to teach to the Moroccan people and the coming generations. Whatever the state of affairs with your neighbor may be and regardless of the respect and consideration that should be given to the neighbor, this should not be an obstacle to good relations. A state should look for oxygen to breathe even at a distance of 3,000 km. This was what happened with Morocco. We have a dispute with our neighbor Algeria over the Sahara question and Mauritania has adopted a hostile and biased attitude toward Morocco. So we had nothing left except the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean. The agreement between Morocco and Libya causes no harm now or in the future to any links that we want to forge with Algeria in the future or between Morocco and Mauritania. The agreement has underlined two facts: First, Morocco respects neighborliness but does not regard it as a matter of fate and, second, Morocco is always yearning to build the Arab Maghreb.

Well, Algeria, Mauritania, and Tunisia started from the center. What does stop Morocco and Libya starting from the sides? I personally consider the union between the two states on which the African Arab Federation is built to be a starting point for the great Arab Maghreb or, at least, a legal framework for a beginning.

Question: In the light of your answer can it be said that a bridge might link the two pacts so as to achieve the objective you have just referred to?

Answer: Personally I believe that no comparison can be made between agreements of different types. The Algerian-Tunisian-Mauritanian pact is one kind and the Moroccan-Libyan agreement is another. What matters is that both types aim at creating a great Arab Maghreb. By mixing both agreements we can lay down a framework for coexistence. But this would be the starting point only because our coexistence has an aim and has objectives that go beyond such agreement, namely almost total spiritual and physical integration. Integration should be total.

Question: Following the conclusion of the pact [with Libya] we have noticed that certain foreign countries expressed reservations. To be frank, the United States particularly objected. So far we do not know the reasons for these reservations. Is it possible to learn the details from you?

Answer: The U.S. reservations were emotional more than anything else. By emotional I mean that the United States does not believe in Colonel al-Qadhafi nor in his integrity. Indeed, it blames him for everything that happens in the world to the point that it has forgotten that other countries bigger and greater than Libya exist in the world and carry out terrorist or illegal actions, as they say in the United States. I have tried to explain to my

friends in the United States Morocco's attitude and its policies and I believe that they have begun to calm down.

The truth is that the United States did not change its policy toward Morocco nor renege on any of its commitments, despite the emotional reaction shown by the U.S. Administration, its irrational stand, and the questions it raised. In fact what happened there [in the United States] was an earthquake in analysis and thinking. They wondered first how Morocco, a constitutional monarchy, could deal with a *jamahiriya* state and, second, how can a person like King Hassan with his character and thinking deal with Colonel al-Qadhafi who is known for his own way of thinking and acting. Now they have begun to calm down.

Question: Your Majesty, with your permission I would like to move to another topic. In your capacity as chairman of the Arab summit and the Islamic summit, as well as chairman of the seven-member committee on Jerusalem, I would like to ask you whether Morocco in the Maghreb and the Saudi Arabian Kingdom in the Mashriq are considered the two mainstays of Arab and Islamic policy that seeks to create a minimum of solidarity. How do you appraise your role in the present circumstances?

Answer: First of all I do not believe that Morocco alone is the mainstay in this part of the world. It is true that Morocco carries weight and possesses status, but it is also modest and appreciates its own weight. It is unfortunate that the alienation between Algeria and Morocco continues. In the past when Morocco and Algeria were in agreement and when they were in the same boat heading in the same direction, they carried considerable weight in the world to the extent that our Arab brothers used to come to the Arab Maghreb so that we might solve their bilateral problems for them.

The Saudi Arabian Kingdom carries special weight, first, because it is the guardian of the holy places and because only a small minority of Arabs do not think of themselves as Arabs and Muslims and who do not mentally turn toward Mecca and Medina when they speak of Arabs and Islam. Secondly, God has bestowed wealth upon Saudi Arabia and because, since it began developing itself, it has pursued a policy of distributing its wealth. It helps both Arab and Islamic countries.

On the other hand, I personally believe that in the Arab field there should be no such a thing as a big state and a small state. Events have proven that it is sufficient for two states to agree to bring a halt to any Arab problem in the general Arab arena. I am against categorizing the Arab states as big, medium, and small. Every country has its own voice and its own weight and, unfortunately, every country can individually do good or cause harm to the public.

Question: Do we understand from this that you are in favor of amending the Arab League Charter so that resolutions are adopted by majority and not by consensus?

Answer: Not just one of the Charter's articles. What we should do to the Arab League Charter is to expand it and to give those who have joined the Arab League a greater freedom of action. Why? Because when the Arab League Charter was laid down there was only a small number of states. Secondly, all the

countries in the Arab League had then one and the same economic and social system. I do not say that it was royal or republican but a free system of dealing. There was multiplicity of parties and trade unions, freedom of the press, freedom of import and export, and freedom of transactions in general.

We observe that in the Arab world at present there are free liberal countries such as Tunisia and Morocco while Libya has its third universal theory. On the other hand Saudi Arabia, Jordan, and the Gulf states have a system of their own. Some countries follow the one-party system and others follow the socialist system in their economy and trade. This makes living under the same roof difficult for people who are not in harmony and who are shackled by strong restrictions. In view of the fact that the number of Arab League members has not reached 22, the Arab League Charter and framework should be expanded so that it will no longer be the charter of coupling the horse with the mule, which therefore leads only to sterility.

SUDAN

Foreign Minister on Ugandan Border Disturbances

JN081827 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1752 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jan (SUNA) — Foreign Minister Hashim 'Uthman has said that his ministry summoned the Ugandan charge d'affaires four times, most recently on 29 November, and informed him of the latest armed aggression by Ugandan (Uruduth) and (Shalji) tribes in the western part of Equatoria Region. This came in the minister's reply regarding Ugandan armed aggression against the Equatoria Region citizens' cattle and property before the fourth session of the People's Assembly this morning.

The foreign minister explained that he had told the Ugandan charge that our Armed Forces might find themselves compelled to follow the aggressors into Ugandan territory. He added: We hope this measure will be interpreted within the framework of the neighborliness between the two fraternal countries. He also said that he stressed the need for Sudanese and Ugandan authorities to carry out joint military operations against gangs operating on the border. The foreign minister emphasized that the Ugandan charge had promised to convey this issue to his government.

Hashim 'Uthman also said that the Foreign Ministry sent a message to the Ugandan minister of foreign affairs in this regard citing all the attacks that have taken place.

President Numayri Merges Two Ministries 8 Jan

JN081618 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1448 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, 8 Jan (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri issued a republican decree today merging the Ministry of Industry with the Ministry of Cooperation, Commerce, and Supply.

The new ministry will be called the Ministry of Commerce, Industry, and Cooperation. The new ministry will include the departments, sections, and divisions of the two previous ministries, and will supervise the institutions and companies that were being supervised by the minister of industry and the minister of cooperation, commerce, and supply. The new ministry will have the following jurisdiction:

1. Organizing and guiding exports and imports, expanding trade exchange, and supporting international and regional trade cooperation.
2. Encouraging the production of basic consumer commodities to meet local needs and to export some commodities.
3. Improving the level of production and development in the existing industries.
4. Drawing up national policies to modernize and develop traditional industries in the countryside in order to achieve the aspired equilibrium in both the economic and social spheres.
5. Drawing up a national policy to strengthen the cooperative movement within the framework of the state's general policy.
6. Maintaining and guiding the cooperative movement.
7. Taking care of international relations in the fields of cooperation.
8. Researching and solving the problems of industry.
9. Supervising public institutions and companies operating in the fields of industry, import, and export.
10. Training technical and vocational cadres in the fields of industry, commerce, supply, and cooperation.

Numayri Mourns Palestinian Commander in Sudan

JN081257 Khartoum SUNA in English 1045 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Khartoum, Rabi' Thani 16 Jan 8 (SUNA) — Sudanese Socialist Union (USS) President Ja'far Numayri expressed deep sorrow over the death of Colonel Jum'a Fassah Isma'il (Abu-Hadi), commander of the Palestinian forces in Jabeit (Eastern Sudan), who died in a traffic accident.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Sends Greetings to Cambodia's Heng Samrin

*E4082053 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries
1700 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the WPE [Workers Party of Ethiopia] Central Committee, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, and commander in chief of the revolutionary Armed Forces, sent a message of congratulations on the occasion of the sixth anniversary celebrations of Cambodia's victory, celebrated yesterday. In the congratulatory message, which he sent on behalf of the WPE, government, and people, and on his own behalf, to Comrade Heng Samrin, chairman of the Council of the PRK, and through him to the people and government of the country, he stated that he was closely following the heroic and perpetual struggle of the Cambodian people against internal and external reactionary forces. He added that he was sincerely confident that the people of Cambodia would build a prosperous socialist society under the wise and decisive leadership of Comrade Heng Samrin. Comrade Mengistu affirmed that the fraternal relations and cooperation between the two countries, built in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, would be enhanced as desired by their peoples. He wished Comrade Heng Samrin full health and peace, development, and prosperity to the people of the country.

EPLF Official on Transport of Ethiopian Jews

GF081421 Doha QNA in Arabic 0935 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 Jan (QNA) — Osman Mohamed Omar, representative of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) in the Gulf, whose base is in Abu Dhabi, has said that the transport of Ethiopian Jews to occupied Palestine is the result of an agreement between the Ethiopian regime and Israel and has been planned since 1977. He said that the drought was used as a cover to smuggle the Falashas out of Ethiopia to neighboring countries so that Ethiopia's connivance in the plot will not be exposed.

In a statement to the QNA correspondent in Abu Dhabi, Osman Mohamed Omar said that the Ethiopian-Israeli agreement was ready for implementation a long time ago, following visits by several delegations of Jewish U.S. congressmen to Ethiopia to negotiate the emigration of Ethiopian Jews. It was agreed in principle to begin to secretly transport them to occupied Palestine. He said that in 1983 Israel gave the Ethiopian regime a large portion of the weapons and ammunition it had captured in Lebanon in 1982 in return for Ethiopia's agreement to the Falashas' emigration.

The representative of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front also said that the forces of the Popular Army for the Liberation of Eritrea and its militias inflicted 150 casualties on the Ethiopian forces and seized a large quantity of medium and light weapons during a battle in the (Barota) region of southern Eritrea on 3 January. He said that the battle broke out when forces of the Popular Liberation Front intercepted the Ethiopian forces trying to commit further crimes against unarmed citizens in southern Asmara.

SOMALIA

Radio Halgan Reports DFSS Kills 33 Government Soldiers

*E4082113 (Clandestine) Radio Halgan in Somali to Somalia
1800 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] In a clash between fighters of the DFSS [Democratic Front for the Salvation of Somalia] wing of the Somali opposition forces and troops loyal to the Siad Barre clique, 33 enemy troops were killed. The battle between units of the 15th Gorod Division of the DFSS and the 62d and 67th Battalions of the 21st Division's 5th Brigade of the Siad forces took place at 1700 yesterday near the village of (Buryoel) in Gobolka Hiiraan, through which the highway linking the north and south of the country passes.

The DFSS fighters inflicted irreparable losses on the enemy troops. Those killed included an Army captain; 47 enemy soldiers were wounded. The report from the high command of the 15th Gorod Division also says that the DFSS fighters destroyed the headquarters of the 62nd and 67th Battalions and all their ammunition dumps.

The DFSS fighters lost one martyr dead and two wounded.

BURUNDI

Briefs

New Italian, DPRK Envoys The Burundian head of state, Colonel Jean-Baptiste Bagaza, today received the credentials of Mr Salvator Zotta, the new Italian envoy, and Mr Choe Chong-sun, the new envoy to Burundi from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, an official source disclosed in Bujumbura. [Text][*Paris AFP in French 1238 GMT 8 Jan 85 AB*]

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

Opposition Government in Exile Formed

PM081253 Paris LE MONDE in French 8 Jan 85 p 4

[Unattributed report: "Prominent Oppositionists Form 'Government in Exile'"]

[Text] It was learned at the end of last week that on 10 December several prominent Central African oppositionists formed a "provisional government of national salvation" (in exile) under the auspices of the provisional executive council of the Central African People's Liberation Movement [MLPC]. The members of this "government" include the following in particular: General Alphonse M'Baikoua, president of the republic and prime minister; General Bozize, vice president of the republic and national defense minister; Justice Minister General Marboua; Foreign Minister Battalion Chief Samuel Gaikouma; General Sylvestre Bangui, minister of the interior and administrative reform; Civil Service Minister Joseph Potolo; Agriculture Minister Idi Lala, and so forth.

Mr Timothee Marboua, one of the leading figures mentioned, was anxious to point out that he is not "a member of the MLPC or even a supporter of the provisional executive council" and feels "in no way concerned by this decision."

RWANDA

Briefs

New Soviet, PRC Envoys Kigali, 8 Jan (AFP) — Rwandan President General Juvenal Habyarimana on Tuesday in Kigali received the credentials of new Soviet Ambassador Gennadiy Sokolov and PRC ambassador to Rwanda An Fenghi. At the end of the ceremony, the Soviet diplomat told the Rwandan press that his country "greatly appreciates the conciliatory policy of the Republic of Rwanda, its efforts toward safeguarding the OAU, and its contribution toward the definitive abolition of colonialism and racism from the continent." The PRC ambassador stated for his part that he will work for the strengthening of the good relations existing between his country and Rwanda. [Text][*Paris AFP in French 1637 GMT 8 Jan 85 AB*]

ZAIRE

'Major Reorganization' Within Armed Forces

AB081643 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1510 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 8 Jan (AZAP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko has just made a major reorganization within the Zairian Armed Forces [FAZ], Rear Admiral Lomponda wa Botende, secretary of state for national defense and territorial security, announced today following a meeting of the Supreme Council of Defense at Mont Ngaliema presided over by the supreme commander of the FAZ.

A permanent inspectorate general of the FAZ has been established. This service will enable the head of state to appraise at any moment the conditions prevailing within the Armed Forces. To head the inspectorate general of the FAZ, the head of state has called upon an officer of great value in the person of General Singa Boyenge Masambay, who until now has been the chief of General Staff of the FAZ.

The inspector general will be assisted in his functions by a general staff officer and five high-ranking staff officers. Brigadier General Eluki Monga Aundu, who was chief of staff of the Army, has been appointed chief of General Staff of the FAZ to replace Gen Masambay.

This reorganization also affects the Supreme Council of Defense, in which the inspector general of the FAZ and the commanders of the three military regions will now have seats, in addition to the secretary of state for national defense, the head of the military household [la maison militaire], the chief of General Staff of the FAZ, the heads of the three branches of the Armed Forces, and the National Gendarmerie, under the chairmanship of the supreme commander of the FAZ.

An honorable end of career has been granted to six staff officers. They are Generals Babia, Bumba, Itambo, Danga, Yosa Malasi, and Esale Yoka. Nine colonels and five lieutenant-colonels were also retired. The legal instruments for this reorganization at the Armed Forces' headquarters, in the military regions and districts, as well as in major units of the FAZ, will be published this evening, Rear Adm Lomponda wa Botende, secretary of state for national defense and territorial security, announced.

Mobutu Appoints President General of Civil Guard

AB081750 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1210 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Kinshasa, 8 Jan (AZAP) — Citizen Mandungu Bula Nyati was on Tuesday, 8 January, appointed president general of the Civil Guard by the founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic. A former state commissioner and former regional governor, the president general of the Civil Guard is one of the rare top office holders to fit in easily both in territorial administration and in diplomatic service, where he once occupied the post of state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation. This constitutes a precious asset in the performance of his new duties which, among others, includes security along Zaire's borders.

Citizen Mandungu Bula also has the advantage of speaking fluent German, which will permit him to personally follow the training course of members of the Civil Guard in the FRG. This country assists in the training and equipping of the elite corps, whose role and importance were stressed by the head of state in his address of 5 January 1985.

At this time when the country is engaged in a decisive phase of its development, security at the borders and the control of all available resources are major concerns, particularly in guaranteeing the success of the economic and social programs of the president's third 7-year term of office.

Here is the text of the decree:

Decree No 85/004 of 1 January 1985 on the appointment of the president general of the Civil Guard:

The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the Republic, in accordance with the Constitution, especially Articles 42 and 45, in accordance with Decree No 84/036 of 28 August 1984 on the creation and organization of the Civil Guard of Zaire, especially Article 62, orders:

Article 1. Citizen Mandungu Bula Nyati has been appointed president general of the Civil Guard.

Article 2. Any other previous provision contrary to this present decree is abrogated. The decree comes into effect on the date of its signature.

Issued in Kinshasa on 1 January 1985.

[Signed] Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu Wa Za Banga

Prices of Selected Fuels Raised by Ministerial Order

AB082130 Paris AFP in French 1425 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Kinshasa, 8 Jan (AFP) — The selling price of kerosene, gas-oil, and fuel have been increased, according to an order from the Zairian minister of national economy and industry published on Monday evening. Kerosene, which until now cost 16 zaires (about 4 francs) per liter, has now gone up to 18 zaires. Gas-oil will henceforth cost 18.50 zaires instead of 15, and fuel oil 12.50 zaires instead of 9.50 zaires. The order, however, maintains the current selling prices of gasoline (super and regular) and [butane] gas, that is, 307 zaires per liter and 70,000 zaires per metric ton respectively.

The new selling price of motor fuels includes a road tax of 3,400 zaires per cubic meter of gasolines and gas-oil, which is 1,400 zaires higher compared to the earlier prices, the order also stipulates. Similarly, the working capital of the Zaire Oil Company was raised from 335 zaires to 900 zaires per cubic meter.

The other taxes remain unchanged: 50 zaires per cubic meter for investment tax, 40 zaires per cubic meter of gasolines for developmental agreement funds, and 31,000 zaires per cubic meter of gasolines for the benefit of the special treasury fund.

The selling prices of fuels were last fixed in August.

BURKINA

Benin, Burkina, Ghana, Libya End 4-Nation Meeting *AB091028 Paris AFP in French 0848 GMT 9 Jan 85*

[Text] Ouagadougou, 9 Jan (AFP)—The development of cooperation between Benin, Burkina, Ghana, and Libya was at the center of a meeting on Monday and Tuesday in Ouagadougou between the ministers of foreign affairs of these four countries, Basile Guissou, Burkinabe minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, stated.

Observers note that this is the first time such a ministerial meeting was held between Libya and the three progressive countries of West Africa, which initiated the meeting, according to sources close to the conference. The four countries, which are already linked by bilateral agreements, wanted to "examine their cooperation at a multilateral level within an informal framework," Mr Guissou indicated.

Al-Turayki, Libyan secretary for foreign liaison, specified that "all aspects of political and economic cooperation and security were reviewed." According to him, the ministers agreed to establish "contacts as frequently as possible" and have not objected to seeing these contacts become "institutional" in the future. "Our cooperation is not aimed at anybody, but it reflects our many common points as progressive and revolutionary countries."

GHANA

Accra on Significance of Kennedy RSA Trip *AB081530 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Kwesi Amaoko commentary]

[Text] Senator Edward Kennedy of the United States has been visiting South Africa to observe things in that country at first hand. The trip is at the invitation of Bishop Desmond Tutu, who won the Nobel Prize for Peace last year. Among the black people of South Africa, there is reported to be mixed feelings about the U.S. senator's visit. While some see it as a good thing, others refuse to attach any significance to it. Senator Kennedy belongs to the Democratic Party in the United States. His party lost the presidency to the candidate of the Republican Party, Mr Ronald Reagan, in the 1980 U.S. presidential elections. President Reagan has since won a second term.

While the last Democratic president, Jimmy Carter, was in the White House, the U.S. took a relatively tough stand in relations with the apartheid regime in Pretoria, and this had the effect of forcing the South African authorities into rethinking certain aspects of their apartheid policy. They actually began the process of relaxing some of the more odious aspects of apartheid and everything pointed to the possibility of more significant changes

to come. Then, in January 1981, Mr Ronald Reagan assumed the presidency of the U.S. He came with a new policy of constructive engagement with the regime in South Africa. To most people in Africa, what this policy of constructive engagement has succeeded in doing after the first 4 years of Mr Reagan's presidency is that it has emboldened the regime in Pretoria in a way that has enabled that regime to rush into adventures that it otherwise would never dare have engaged in. It has attacked and occupied Angolan territory and become intransigent over the question of independence for Namibia.

Senator Kennedy is a politician of the Democratic Party, which is not in power at the moment. But those who refuse to see anything useful coming out of this trip to South Africa reason that the American is always an American and that irrespective of party differences, Senator Kennedy's perspectives of the South African situation may not be very different from that of President Reagan. One hopes that what the U.S. senator is able to see of South Africa will shock him sufficiently to make him take a strong position against those who practice apartheid. But one thing that cannot fail to impress the senator is that in the current situation in South Africa, the black people are left with no alternative but to see justice and human dignity by means of violence. Even known advocates of nonviolence like Bishop Desmond Tutu are now turning to accept the position that violence is the only way. But an explosion can be avoided in South Africa if the U.S. and the other industrialized countries in the West would be willing to use their influence and exert the necessary pressure on the apartheid regime.

Senator Kennedy's visit would be important only if it would result in the American people knowing more about the true facts of life under the apartheid regime. Mr Kennedy cannot talk Mr Botha into abandoning apartheid. Let him have no illusions about that. But when he makes the truth about apartheid known to the American people and the American people decide that they will have nothing to do with a regime that practices racial discrimination as official policy, a change will be coming in South Africa.

IVORY COAST

Chadian Minister Arrive With Message From Habre *AB091033 Paris AFP in French 1630 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] Abidjan, 8 Jan (AFP)—Lassou Gouara, Chadian minister of foreign affairs and cooperation, arrived in Abidjan late yesterday morning with a message from President Hissein Habre to President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, according to reliable sources in the Ivorian economic capital.

Lassou Gouara, who is accompanied by Oudalbaye Naham, Chadian minister of labor, employment, and vocational training, is expected to be received in the evening by the Ivorian head of state.

The Chadian envoys, who were met at the Abidjan Port-Bouet International Airport by their Ivorian counterparts for foreign affairs and labor, arrived from Togo.

On Monday in Lome, Lassou Gouara was received by President Gnassingbe Eyadema to whom he delivered a message from President Hissein Habre. After the meeting, Lassou Gouara told the press that he had been to see the president to inform him about the current situation in Chad after the signing of the agreement between France and Libya on the withdrawal of French and Libyan troops on 16 September 1984.

According to observers, the visit to the Ivory Coast by the Chadian minister of foreign affairs falls within the framework of a campaign by the Ndjamen authorities to explain the current situation in Chad. Another Chadian envoy, Mahamat Nouri, has gone to Cairo to deliver a message from Mr Habre to President Husni Mubarak.

It should be noted that the Ivorian regime has always supported Hissein Habre's regime in Chad.

Canadian Loan for Development Projects

AB082135 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Canada is a good friend of the Ivory Coast. This is evidenced by the fact that it has just granted a loan of more than 8 billion CFA francs to our country for various development projects. The Ivorian-Canadian joint commission will meet in Abidjan tomorrow to examine the ways and means to use the money.

NIGERIA

Buhari, Senegal's Diouf Speak at Dinner

AB082200 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Nigeria has condemned the withdrawal of the United States and Britain from UNESCO. The condemnation was made in Lagos tonight by the head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, while speaking at the state dinner in honor of the visiting Senegalese president, Abdou Diouf.

General Buhari stated that Nigeria viewed with great concern the action of the United States and Britain, which he explained counteracted the spirit of multilateral interaction on which international peace and stability were founded. He pointed out that Nigeria could not accept that the withdrawal of the United States and Britain from UNESCO was a solution to the real and imagined problems confronting the UN organ. The head of state made it clear that Nigeria would continue to be an active member of UNESCO and took the opportunity to renew his call on the United States and Britain to reconsider their decision to withdraw from the body. He also complimented Senegal on her contribution to UNESCO in the person of its director general, Ahmadou Moktar M'Bow, who is a Senegalese.

General Buhari called on the United States and the Soviet Union on behalf of the government and people of Nigeria to pursue the current talks on arms control and disarmament with a greater sense of purpose and concern for the future of mankind.

On the African scene, the head of state spoke of the need to carry the spirit of self-reliance beyond national frontiers so as to enhance greater collaboration and genuine cooperation among member states of ECOWAS and OAU. General Buhari noted that until the recent summit in Lome in December last year, protocols and agreements signed but not implemented threatened to hold back the pace of development in the ECOWAS subregion. He said the summit has given ECOWAS a new means of life and hoped that Senegal and Nigeria would continue to work together to make ECOWAS a virile organization to develop achieving its set goals. [Sentence as heard] General Buhari also noted that the last OAU summit in Addis Ababa put a stop to the needless dissipation of energies on political issues in favor of more pressing economic and social problems.

The head of state touched on the issues of southern Africa and Namibia and stated that with an identity of views, Senegal and Nigeria must work closely together to prevent African states from committing themselves to South Africa. General Buhari emphasized that Senegal and Nigeria must continue to strive to maintain and improve upon the existing cordial relations. He said that he had been greatly impressed during the talks about the similarity of the problems confronting the government and peoples of the two countries. The head of state added that Nigeria had followed with keen interest the steady progress that Senegal had made under the leadership of President Abdou Diouf.

In his response, President Diouf said that the creation of the Senegal and Nigerian joint committee bore an excellent testimony to the bonds of harmony, love, and the common will to live together by the peoples of both countries. He said Senegal shared the desire of Nigeria to forge greater cooperation in all aspects of endeavors. The Senegalese leader said this is why it was desirable to do away with all differences and barriers, especially the linguistic ones set up by historical past. President Diouf referred to the recent ECOWAS and OAU summits and said that they gave African countries a fresh start in the quest for economic stability. He added that his country shared with Nigeria the genuine desire for peace and the principle of negotiated settlement of differences between nations. He described the visit to Nigeria as a new step in the relations between Senegal and Nigeria, adding that Senegal would always team up with Nigeria in her increasingly prominent role in international fora.

NAN Cites London TIMES on Jackson-Dikko Meeting

AB082050 Dakar PANA in French 1710 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] London, 8 Jan (NAN/PANA) — Black American leader Reverend Jesse Jackson paid a "secret visit" on Monday to the London residence of Mr Umaru Dikko, former Nigerian minister, it was reported by the London *TIMES*. According to the NEWS AGENCY OF NIGERIA (NAN) correspondent in Europe, who quoted the newspaper, it seems that Mr Dikko intends to apply for a residence permit in the United States in case his request for political asylum in Great Britain is not accepted. The daily also indicated that Mr Dikko is said to have asked for Reverend Jackson's assistance in obtaining an entry visa for the United States.

Air Force To Acquire New Dornier Aircraft

AB090815 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT
9 Jan 85

[Text] The Nigerian Air Force is to acquire a new aircraft before the end of this month. The aircraft, which is of the Do 228-100 type, is estimated at 2 million naira. A spokesman for the manufactures, Mr Klaus (Leher) said in Lagos that the Dornier 228 series aircraft had to its credit many thousands of hitch-free hours of flying. He told newsmen that two aircraft of the 228-200 series will also be delivered to the Air Force later in the year.

Cooperation With Romania in Telecommunications

AB081720 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Text] Nigeria is to cooperate with Romania in the development of telecommunications. The two countries are also looking into the possibility of procuring spare parts for Nigeria's telephone exchanges. The permanent secretary in the Ministry of Communications, Malam Ibrahim Aliu, said this to newsmen after he received the ambassador of Romania to Nigeria, Dr Vasile Chivulescu, in his office today. Malam Aliu also said that the two countries would examine the possibility of manufacturing spare parts and equipment for Nigerian telecommunication industry.

Briefs

New Envoy to Vatican — Pope John Paul II has received the credentials of the new Nigerian ambassador to the Vatican, Edwin Ihama. [Excerpt] [*Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 8 Jan 85 AB*]

SENEGAL**Ivorian Ministers To Consult With Counterparts**

AB081755 Dakar Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT
8 Jan 85

[Excerpt] The visit of two Ivorian ministers to our country began a short while ago. They are Ange Barry-Battesti, minister of public works, construction, transport, and posts and telecommunications, and Jean-Jacques Bechio, minister of civil service. They were met a short while ago at the Dakar-Yoff airport by Djiibo Ka, Andre Sonko, their associates, and the Ivorian ambassador to Senegal. Let us first listen to Ange Barry-Battesti, who was interviewed by Demba Ndiaye.

[Begin Barry-Battesti recording] The aim of our visit to Senegal: We were sent here by our head of state for a very brief visit. We hope it will be a fruitful visit that will enable us to get information about the salaries of your posts and telecommunications employees and their professional status and careers. We would also like to know what fringe benefits and advantages these employees receive. You will be well-informed about our posts and telecommunications system in the Ivory Coast. We need to get information from a fraternal and friendly country which faced the same problems as we and certainly found happy solutions. We would like to benefit from this experience.

I am accompanied by my friend and colleague, the young minister of the civil service, Jean-Jacques Bechio, because the problem also concerns the civil service. We hope to meet all our Senegalese colleagues during our visit in order to get as much information as possible about the problem.

We are very happy to be in Senegal. As [words indistinct], the Ivorians are very attached to cooperation between Ivory Coast and Senegal, and anytime the head of state has the opportunity he does not hesitate to consult us, so it is in this framework that we are visiting you. We would like to greet our Senegalese friends and tell them how happy we are to be here with them. We also hope that the harvest that we have come to gather here will be abundant. [end recording]

SIERRA LEONE**Stevens Announces FRG Cancellation of \$52 Million Debt**

AB081400 Paris AFP in English 1348 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Freetown, Jan 8 (AFP) — President Siaka Stevens of Sierra Leone today announced that West Germany had cancelled 165 million deutsche marks (52.56 million dollars) in loans owed by this West African state.

Mr Stevens, speaking to a new year's reception for the diplomatic corps here, did not give any figures for Sierra Leone's total debt to West Germany.

In a wide-ranging speech on domestic and international issues, Mr Stevens said that Sierra Leone continued to suffer serious economic difficulties due in part to high interest rates and the burden of repaying foreign debts. He went on to thank China for providing 13.5 million dollars in aid for a variety of development-related projects.

ANGOLA

Briefs

Joint Oil Service Company — Luanda, 8 January (ANGOP) — The defense and security council has issued a decree in the official gazette, *DIARIO DA REPUBLICA*, authorizing the creation of Petromar enterprise, a joint economic unit, to be based in Luanda with a capital of about \$4.7 million. Its shareholders are the French Bouygues Offshore, with 126,000 shares, and the National Angolan Fuel Company, with 14,000 shares. The goal of Petromar is to produce, install, and maintain petroleum equipment and other equipment connected with the petroleum industry. [Summary] [*Luanda ANGOP in French 1237 GMT 8 Jan 85 MB*]

MOZAMBIQUE

Diplomatic Ties To Be Established With Afghanistan
MB090900 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0800 GMT 9 Jan 85

[Text] The People's Republic of Mozambique and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan have decided to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries at the ambassadorial level. This was disclosed in a joint communique signed in New York the day before yesterday by Manuel dos Santos, Mozambique's permanent representative to the United Nations, and Farid Zarif, Afghanistan's ambassador to the United Nations.

The text of the joint communique says that the two countries agreed to establish diplomatic relations based on their mutual desire to develop friendship and cooperation and their adherence to the objectives and principles of the UN Charter and the policy of nonalignment. The communique further states that Mozambique and Afghanistan were prompted by the desire for mutual relations based on the principles of respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, national independence, and noninterference in the domestic affairs of other nations; the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, apartheid, and racism, including Zionism, foreign domination, and exploitation; and the fight for world peace, progress, and social justice.

Renamo Leader Scheduled To Arrive in Pretoria
PA090413 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1028 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Lisbon, 8 Jan (EFE) — It was reported in Lisbon today that new contacts with a view to achieving peace in Mozambique are "imminent" with the arrival in Pretoria of Evo Fernandes, secretary general of the antigovernment "National Resistance" (Renamo) movement.

According to reports by Jorge Correia, Renamo spokesman in Europe, the visit is the result of an invitation from the South African Government with a view to reinitiating the negotiations begun 3 October last year in Pretoria and broken off by the withdrawal of the rebel organization.

Nevertheless, Correia stressed, Renamo will demand as a condition for the reinitiation of the negotiations — so far negotiations between South Africa and Mozambique on one side and the "resistance" on the other — the "political recognition" of the rebel movement by the Samora Machel regime.

The suspension of the earlier talks was caused by the Maputo government's refusal to recognize Renamo as a valid negotiator, but the worsening of the civil war in the past few weeks could make the dialogue necessary.

In an interview yesterday in Maputo with the ambassadors of the five countries that are members of the UN Security Council, the Mozambican president discussed the situation of "armed banditry" in the country.

Before the representatives of the United States, USSR, UK, France, and the PRC, Samora Machel again accused South Africa of being the headquarters for the bandits in Mozambique, Maputo's official name for the Renamo guerrillas.

These guerrillas maintain ever-increasing activity in the vicinity of the capital, and the Mozambican Government itself has warned foreign residents in the cities not to leave the cities because their safety cannot be guaranteed.

According to President Machel, the participants in the meeting recognized the need for the full application of the Nkomati Accord, which was signed last March to guarantee neighborly relations between South Africa and Mozambique.

SOUTH AFRICA

RAPPOR Reports Talks Between Officials, ANC
MB081655 Johannesburg RAPPORT in Afrikaans 6 Jan 85 pp 1,2

[By J.H.P. Serfontein]

[Text] Johannesburg — All indications are that South African officials and the banned ANC met each other in Lusaka 3 weeks ago. The goal was "a private, informal, and explorative discussion."

As far as is known, this was the first direct official contact between the government and the ANC since the banning of the organization in 1960. The meeting was apparently the beginning of negotiations about requests for the release of Nelson Mandela and other ANC leaders currently serving life sentences at Pollsmoor Prison in Cape Town.

This was learned from very reliable sources in the Frontline States closely connected to the Governments of Zambia and Mozambique, and the ANC itself. The Zambian Government was, according to information, the major intermediary for the meeting, which is said to have taken place in Lusaka on the Wednesday before Christmas.

The meeting followed closely an interview with senior ANC officials in Lusaka by Dr Piet Muller, assistant editor of the Johannesburg daily *BEELD*. It was apparently the first interview in 24 years granted by the ANC to an Afrikaans newspaper which supports the government.

The pre-Christmas Lusaka meeting was, however, a discussion between official representatives of the ANC and South African officials. It was not a meeting between intermediaries or persons such as journalists, academics, or businessmen, I was told. There were three important aspects to the Lusaka talks:

— There is an intense debate among ANC leaders over the question of whether or not there should be any official contact with South Africa.

— The attempt to prompt the release of Mandela and his fellow prisoners is the main reason why the ANC decided in favor of the meeting.

— It was significant that the Zambian Government played a major role in influencing the ANC to talk directly with South Africa.

Apparently, the debate among the ANC leaders on this issue began shortly after the signing of the Nkomati Accord between South Africa and Mozambique last year. It appears the majority of top ANC leaders are in favor of talks with the South African Government on specific issues. Among them are Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC; Alfred Nzo, the veteran chief secretary who retires soon; and his possible successor, Tabo Mbeki, who is at present director of publicity and information.

Mr Mbeki was one of the two ANC officials interviewed by *BEELD* in Lusaka recently. The other was Mr Simon Makande. In the liberation movement, the reputation of Mr Mbeki, son of Govan Mbeki, an imprisoned ANC leader, is impeccable.

A smaller faction under the leadership of Joe Slovo — a senior member of the Communist Party and head of the ANC military forces — is strongly opposed to any talks with the government.

In the meantime, the Zambian Government is insisting on the ANC making direct contact with the South African Government. Similar advice has been given in the past year by most of the frontline presidents. Zambia has told the ANC that the South African Government would obviously not be interested in discussions about the political future of South Africa, but it should be possible for the ANC to achieve certain limited goals, such as the release of Nelson Mandela and others. Zambia said by talking with South Africa, the ANC could try to achieve this goal.

The ANC group in favor of talks has no illusions as to how far they will be able to go. But they believe that if they can achieve the release of the prisoners, they will be able to present it to the Slovo group as a victory for their strategy. For this reason, they will press for the unconditional release of Mandela and others.

Any conditions, such as their release to a homeland government, would be totally unacceptable. The ANC leaders point to the unconditional release last year of Herman Toivo ja Toivo, the SWAPO leader. They recall the release in Zimbabwe in 1975 of political leaders like Robert Mugabe, Joshua Nkomo, and Ndabaningi Sithole.

According to the sources, the Mandela issue was not raised at this first meeting, which was considered to be "exploratory talks about talks."

Of particular interest is the role of Zambia in the whole process. Sources in the frontline states point to President Kaunda's deep involvement as mediator in the Namibia issue. They also point to the close trust on the relationship between the governments of Pretoria and Lusaka. They do not believe Zambia would have suggested to the ANC that they raise the Mandela issue unless the Zambians had first discussed the matter informally with South Africa.

At his news conference in Johannesburg on Wednesday after his return from abroad, Nobel Prize winner Bishop Desmond Tutu said he had recently held talks with President Kaunda, as well as Julius Nyerere of Tanzania and ANC leaders. He made it clear that the ANC would be prepared to hold direct discussions with the South African Government.

The release of Mandela and other ANC leaders has recently been in the news, but it is clear the attempts by Transkei's President Kaizer Mantsizima to have Mandela released to him has again failed.

A countrywide survey by the Human Sciences Research Council recently, indicated that 43 percent of white South Africans are in favor of negotiations with the ANC, while 44 percent are opposed.

RAPPORT was unable yesterday to contact Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Pik Botha for comment. Reports say that Mr P.W. Botha, the state president, yesterday reacted in a statement in which he repeated last December's stand that no member of the National Party would be permitted to hold talks with the ANC.

Johannesburg Cites Addresses by U.S. Envoy, Kennedy
MB081522 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans
 1400 GMT 8 Jan 85

[Text] Mr Herman Nickel, the U.S. ambassador to South Africa, has strongly criticized the policy of foreign disinvestment and bans on new investment in South Africa. Mr Nickel told a huge gathering of businessmen in Johannesburg that the notion that once the investment tap had been turned off it could be turned on again at will, after certain political objectives had been reached, required more than a normal dose of economic naivety.

He said that to adopt a policy that would deliberately reduce job opportunities seemed to be what he described as an odd, not to say perverse, way of expressing solidarity with and support for thousands in their desperate search for work.

Visting U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy told the conference that he would give specific recommendations on disinvestment in South Africa after his 8-day tour. He said the United States could not accept statements of goodwill as a substitute for concrete actions to achieve fundamental rights.

Senator Kennedy called for the reinstatement of 6,000 South African Coal, Oil, and Gas Corporation [SASOL] workers who lost their jobs last year after a strike. He said that no issue was more clearly watched in the outside world than the fate of the union movement in South Africa. He added that the reinstatement of the SASOL workers would reaffirm the dignity of labor.

Boycotting Students Urged To Return to Classes

*MB081946 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1900 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Text] Boycotting students have been urged to return to classes when schools reopen tomorrow by both the Congress of South African Students, COSAS, and Azanian Students' Organization, AZASO. COSAS has released a statement calling on students to register for the year and return to school. However, they also stress that whether the school boycott will be resumed or not, will be decided by various COSAS branches at the weekend.

At the meeting organized by AZASO, it has been resolved that pupils in the Sheshego township should return to classes. But the more than 50 pupils who gathered for the meeting demanded that the 20 pupils who have been refused admission at (Kgaiso) High School be unconditionally readmitted tomorrow. The 20 pupils are believed to have been expelled after the wave of unrest and class boycotts at the school last year.

Buthelezi Urges Dialogue, Rejects Violence

*MB081926 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English
1900 GMT 8 Jan 85*

[Text] The chief minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, says black people have no hope of bringing about fundamental change in South Africa unless they talk to the whites when an opportunity presents itself.

Chief Buthelezi said in a television program that talking to whites should not be regarded as anathema or a form of collaboration. He said he accepted that protest politics had a role to play in South Africa, but that there were those who used boycotts whether they were effective or not.

Chief Buthelezi said whereas black people complained that the country was undemocratic, there were blacks who themselves behaved undemocratically by intimidating other blacks and burning down their houses. This would not get at white South Africa, as he put it.

ZIMBABWE

Munangagwa: ZAPU Detainees To Remain in Custody
*MB081210 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT
8 Jan 85*

[Text] The minister of state for security, Comrade Emmerson Munangagwa, says the government will continue detaining political saboteurs regardless of whether they will play a special role during the forthcoming general election. Comrade Munangagwa was reacting to the recent ZAPU demand that five of the party's detained Central Committee members be released to enable them to participate in the next general election. The minister told the Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation that the five had been detained under emergency powers regulations, adding that if they wanted to participate in the election, they should have refrained from acts of sabotage and violence.

Comrade Munangagwa has warned minority persons who wish to participate in the general election to refrain from these acts. The ZAPU Central Committee, which met last weekend to discuss the strategy for the next general election, complained about the arrest of the five, demanding their immediate release. The detainees' names are: Party Treasurer Kenneth Mano, National Organizing Secretary George Maranje, and his deputy, Angelina Masuku, Youth Secretary Norman Zikhali, and a Central Committee member, (Tendekai Ndlovu). The attorney general, Comrade Godfrey Chidyausiko, said [word indistinct] docket is now complete.

Briefs

British Envoy Departs — The outgoing British high commissioner to Zimbabwe, Mr Martin Ewans, today paid a call on the president, Comrade Canaan Banana, to bid him farewell. Mr Ewans, who is leaving for another senior diplomatic position, was appointed for the Harare post in the first half of 1983. He said he would be succeeded by Mr Ramsey Melhuish. [Text] *[Harare Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 8 Jan 85 MB]*